

New merger policy upsets MacLennan

Steel pleased, but SDP leader stays silent

By Robin Oakley and Richard Ford

A new threat to the merger of the SDP and Liberal parties has emerged.

Mr Robert MacLennan, the SDP leader, is known to be deeply unhappy about the compromise policy document produced over the weekend by a six-man rescue team in a bid to save the merger.

He appeared to be in danger of becoming isolated from most of his own party last night, but was said to be holding out for alterations in the compromise document and perhaps to be winning some of his colleagues around to that view.

It was announced earlier that the 17 Liberal MPs had unanimously backed the new document and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, pro-

nounced that the merger was "back on the rails".

Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP president, gave the new document her blessing too, though later it emerged that one Liberal MP, Mr Simon Hughes (Bermondsey) had said he would not make up his mind until next weekend.

However, SDP officials confirmed that Mr MacLennan, who has promised

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that he will give his party a firm verdict on the merger deal — including the policy document produced after Liberal MPs humbly rejected the earlier "Voices and Choices" document produced by him and Mr Steel — had considerable reservations.

After attending the Liberal meeting as an observer, the SDP leader looked grim and unhappy.

He answered "no comment" to every question put to him and eventually became exasperated with journalists, snapping: "No comment means no comment. I am not making any comment today."

He appears to be an isolated figure within his own party. As other SDP merger negotiators arrived at a meeting in Cowley Street last night, most signalled their dissent to the document, which is not to be published until today, but which was comprehensively leaked throughout Westminster last night.

Mr Dickson Mahon, a former SDP MP, said the document was much better than he had anticipated. Mr Dick Taverner declared: "Peace in our time."

Liberals blame Mr MacLennan for the fiasco of the earlier document, saying that he was looking back too hard over his shoulder at supporters of Dr David Owen and working too hard at promoting his own political machismo.

Mr MacLennan faces the difficulty that he has insisted all along that the constitutional agreement for the merger must be backed with a firm policy stance on crucial issues like nuclear power and nuclear defence. He scorned the idea of a "blank cheque" and promised never to lead his party into an uncharted limbo.

Now he is being asked to sign a blank cheque and to lead the SDP into a merger in which there is no specific core of reserved SDP policy. Instead, the SDP will have to trust everything to the policy-making machinery of the new

party in which they will inevitably be outnumbered by Liberals.

The new document, produced by a team led for the Liberals by Mr Des Wilson, the party president, and for the SDP by Mr Edmund Dell, a former Labour Cabinet minister, scraps the clear commitment to Trident incorporated in the earlier document.

That said that Britain had no option but to retain and control its own deterrent, meaning Trident. The new document merely says that the merged party will have to decide how to reconcile its commitment to scrapping Trident at the last election with the changed realities which would apply by the time they might come to power — notably that Trident would by then have been paid for, and be ready for deployment.

The leaders' document backed the continuation of nuclear power. The new document calls instead for a review of economic prospects and environmental implications of the civil nuclear power programme.

The new document also drops all reference to such controversial items as phasing-out of mortgage tax relief, the imposition of VAT on fuel and food and children's clothing, and the ending of universal child benefit.

Last night, after the SDP negotiating committee broke up, Mr Charles Kennedy, the SDP MP, said they were now consulting other people about the new policy document which the negotiators had had a "preliminary run-through".

Asked if there were differences, he replied: "No, it is just that given the events of last week, we want to make sure we consult very fully."

As he left the meeting, Mr MacLennan would only say he was "encouraged".



Government defeated on legal aid reform

By Sheila Gann, Political Staff

The House of Lords embarrassed the Government yesterday by throwing out a central plank of its planned overhaul of the legal aid system.

It was the Government's first defeat of the session and the first upset for a Government Bill after the resignation of Lord Whitelaw as Leader of the Lords.

The vote casts doubt on the planned overhaul of the £420 million-a-year legal aid scheme because it will curb the power of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, to decide the future shape of the scheme.

A Labour peers' amendment, approved with a majority of two, was aimed at preventing the future withdrawal by the Lord Chancellor of legal aid and assistance for certain legal aid work such as wills, conveyancing and social security matters.

It could also block his attempts to form out legal advice and assistance to lay bodies such as legal centres.

Many of the peers who supported the amendment said they did so as a protest at the unfettered powers it gave to the Lord Chancellor.

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Argentine rebel chief's surrender offer rejected

Alfonsín ready to bomb Rico headquarters

From A Correspondent, Buenos Aires

Despite a "conditional offer of surrender" from Argentina's rebel army leader, Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico, troops loyal to President Alfonsín stepped up their attack on the rebel stronghold in the northern town of Monte Caseros.

As the Army's chief of staff, General José Caridi, took over control of the offensive by loyalist troops, fighter bombers were being prepared for action at two bases in the country to flush out the militant soldiers by air attacks if necessary.

As the military crisis entered its fourth day, it was clear that General Caridi was not prepared to accept anything less than an unconditional surrender from the rebels, who briefly overran an airport in Buenos Aires and spread their mutiny to several provincial military camps yesterday.

But the tide last night appeared to have turned against Colonel Rico, with his lightly-defended forces, estimated at 100 disaffected middle-ranking officers, heavily outnumbered by well-armed government troops.

Heavy rain and broken communications made casualty reports impossible, but earlier yesterday two officers were said to be injured when their lorry hit a rebel anti-tank mine on the approaches to the insurgents' positions.

General Caridi set up his headquarters at a military air base of Curuzú Cuatiá, where 30 Air Force fighters from the air base at Tandil are believed to be on alert and military sources said that Hercules bombers at Curuzú Cuatiá have also been prepared for action. In addition to the air support, General Caridi has at his disposal some 2,000 troops, including armoured units.

In preparation for an attack rebels have mined the access roads and the three bridges crossing the Paraná River. One of these was blown up after government troops approached, intending to cross it.

The Government said it was delaying a full-scale offensive because it was seeking to avoid inflicting injuries to the civilian population or damaging private property. One of the problems was that the military base in Monte Caseros is located in the middle of a housing complex, which has now been evacuated.

It is also suspected that President Alfonsín is hoping to avoid a military confrontation which could further divide the Army. After an emergency meeting with political and military aides he told President Mitterrand of France by telephone that Colonel Rico had surrendered.

But positions appeared to harden after and there seems to be little chance of a negotiated solution. The Government said it had rejected Colonel Rico's offer because he required a six-hour delay before surrendering, which observers said could have been a stalling tactic.

The Government's problems have not been confined to Monte Caseros. The most serious incident yesterday was at the capital's Aeroparque airport when 30 Air Force rebels seized control of the facility for four hours until troops recaptured the terminal buildings and arrested some of the officers. Mutinies in Tucumán, Santa Cruz and San Juan were quashed.

President Alfonsín has cancelled a visit to Sweden this week because of the crisis.



Colonel Rico, the rebel leader, holding an impromptu news conference at Monte Caseros.

Moore will rule out more cash for NHS

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Mr John Moore, the beleaguered Secretary of State for Social Services, will today launch a robust defence of the Government's record on the health service after holding a council of war yesterday with the Prime Minister.

In the face of an Opposition onslaught and deep misgivings among his own supporters, he is likely to extol his department's drive to monitor the service more closely and so ensure that the most laggardly health authorities approach the standards of care of the best.

At the same time, he will reiterate the now-familiar figures about higher spending and record numbers of operations while pouring scorn on Labour's claim that it would be a better steward of the health service.

With the Opposition and some Conservative MPs calling on Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to forgo some of his tax cuts for higher health spending, Mr Moore will rule out more money on top of the extra £1.1 billion already allocated.

He will argue that such action would jeopardise the economic recovery that has made available extra revenues for spending on social programmes.

According to one senior Whitehall source, Mr Moore's message will be: "If you haven't got it, you cannot spend it."

Mr Moore accompanied by Mr Antony Newton, the Minister for Health, met Mrs Thatcher for half an hour to review all aspects of how the Government is putting over its case.

Afterwards, government sources dismissed "gossip" about Mr Moore's position.

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Parents' plea, page 24

known to be emanating from Cabinet colleagues, alleging that he is not up to the job. They insisted that Mr Moore enjoyed the Prime Minister's full confidence.

Nevertheless, many Conservative MPs believe that today's Commons debate on an Opposition motion on the "crisis" in the health service will prove a crucial test of Mr Moore's mettle.

If, after his two-month absence with a bout of bacterial pneumonia, he fails to regain the initiative in the controversy over the health service, his future will look shaky.

Yesterday high-ranking Government sources dis-

counted reports that Mr Moore will shortly announce a formal review of the structure and financing of the health service.

While both the Downing Street policy unit and officials at the Department of Health and Social Security are known to be studying options for change, the Government does not wish to raise the profile of the issue still further by going public on its informal review.

Yesterday, Labour called for an extra £1 billion for the health service in the next financial year and Mr Moore's Conservative critics piled on the pressure.

Mr Robin Cook, Labour's chief health spokesman, said that he would be hammering home the point that higher spending had to take precedence over tax cuts.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Birmingham Selly Oak, attacked the "abysmal ineptitude" of Mr Moore's handling of the disputes involving nurses and blood transfusion staff.

Referring to the trade off between tax cuts and higher health service spending, Mr Beaumont-Dark added: "In God's name, what is £1 billion when you have got £6 billion?"

Space technology

Hotel set for £5m boost

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Government is set to approve the next stage of development of Hotel, the revolutionary British space plane.

The Department of Trade and Industry is expected to agree to spend up to £5 million a year for three years on an "enabling technology study" — if a consortium of companies including British Aerospace, Rolls-Royce and ICI put up an equal share.

The Government's decision depends on the report of the recently completed £4 million study on Hotel. Although the findings are classified, aerospace technologists have in-

dicated that the results are better than they could have imagined five years ago when the idea of a re-usable space plane was conceived.

But now a new threat is looming for British space experts are about to become the target of an intensive European recruitment campaign.

One of the largest consultancies specializing in recruiting scientists and engineers, ISS of Bremen, is looking for up to 400 specialists for West German space projects and for work on European Space Agency ventures.

Meanwhile, the Depart-

ment of Trade and Industry is waiting until next month before making a final commitment on the next stage of work on Hotel because of other negotiations involving the European Space Agency. In addition to its plans for Hotel, the Government has also to give a final answer to the European Space Agency on an option for Britain to join in the Columbus project, which would form a European contribution to the space station that the United States will build in space after 1994.

The fate of Columbus has been questioned because of dif-

Continued on page 24, col 7

Israeli troops destroy refugee food supplies

Naseirat (Reuters) — Israeli soldiers yesterday seized and destroyed food that Palestinian women were trying to take into the Gaza Strip refugee camp here under curfew, where UN officials say residents are going hungry.

Soldiers jumped out of three jeeps, stopped women on the main Gaza Strip highway, grabbed their plastic shopping baskets and threw the contents on the road. As the seven women wept and shouted, troops trampled bread and vegetables and threw a basket of food under a passing car.

"We are not punishing them. We just want to give them a reason not to break the curfew," an Israeli officer, named only as Colonel Avi, said. Troop reinforcements arrived and immediately declared the area a closed military zone.

The UN Relief and Works Agency says there are serious shortages of food in the eight Gaza Strip camps.

But the Israelis deny that there is any lack of supplies, claiming they have allowed daily breaks in the curfew.

Curfew submission, page 7

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Changing role as Prince joins Lloyd Webber

By Alan Hamilton

Prince Edward is to join Andrew Lloyd Webber's highly successful theatrical production company as a Royal Marines officer, having decided that he did not want a long-term military career. Since then he has staged a charity edition of the television game *It's A Knockout* involving other members of the Royal Family, and has narrated Prokofiev's *Peter And The Wolf* with the London Symphony Orchestra.

Prince Edward will begin his full-time theatrical career in a lowly position handling paperwork at an office in the Palace Theatre in the West End. He will not appear on stage.

The Really Useful Company has staged some of the most successful

about the theatre professionally", the Prince said.

The announcement comes a year after he abandoned his training course as a Royal Marines officer, having decided that he did not want a long-term military career. Since then he has staged a charity edition of the television game *It's A Knockout* involving other members of the Royal Family, and has narrated Prokofiev's *Peter And The Wolf* with the London Symphony Orchestra.

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West End musicals of recent years, including *Cats* and *Phantom Of The Opera*, and last year won the Queen's Award for Export Achievement. A production of *Phantom* will open on Broadway next week.

Mr Lloyd Webber said: "I have been very impressed by the Prince's real enthusiasm for the theatre and genuine desire to learn the business."

Miss Bridget Hayward, the company's executive director, said Prince Edward had approached it two years ago with a request that Mr Lloyd Webber and the lyricist Tim Rice write a short musical to be performed privately for the Queen's sixtieth birthday. "He made up his mind what he wanted to do; we had some meeting and said 'Fine'. It was a natural

progression, and the company offered him a job.

"He is bright and intelligent, and the fact of who he is should not be grounds for discrimination."

Prince Edward displayed enthusiasm for the stage while an undergraduate at Cambridge, and appeared in several university productions. He has become patron of the National Youth Theatre, the National Youth Music Theatre, and the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland.

The Prince is following a precedent set by the Queen's cousin, Lord Harewood, who has made a lifetime career in artistic management, including spells as director of the Edinburgh Festival and of English National Opera.

December shop sales fall 1.1%

By Our Economics Editor

Christmas failed to live up to expectations in the high street. Retail sales, seasonally adjusted, fell 1.1 per cent in December from November, a quiet end to a year that registered the fastest growth ever in high street sales.

Money market interest rates fell slightly, though they still indicate a possible rise in bank base rates.

If a fall in consumer demand is confirmed, Mr Nigel Lawson will feel more able to cut taxes in the Budget. The latest figures for the public sector borrowing requirement, to be released today, are expected to confirm unprecedented scope for cuts in both borrowing and taxes.

The dollar continued firmer. In London, it closed 75 points up at DM1.6810 but 45 points down at ¥129.95. The pound was 60 points lower against the dollar at \$1.7720 but its effective rate was unchanged at 74.7. In the stock market the FT-SE index closed 3.3 higher at 1790.

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IN PART 2

Imran returns

Imran Khan has agreed to return to Test cricket to lead Pakistan on the tour of the West Indies in March Page 44

New-tech first

A new section starts today expanding *The Times* coverage of computers. It looks at the response to the Government's plans to change hi-tech funding. Pages 31-34

Portfolio Gold

● The daily prize of £2,000 in *The Times* Portfolio Gold competition — double the usual amount because there was no winner on Saturday — was won yesterday by a reader from Leeds. Details page 3.
● Portfolio list, page 20.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

£100m urban rail scheme approved

The building of a light rail system for Greater Manchester — to be maintained and operated privately — could be partly funded by the Government. Mr David Mitchell, Minister for Transport, announced support for the scheme yesterday.

Planners expect that within three years 60mph supertrams will carry 10 million passengers from outlying towns along an electric railway line to city centre stores and offices. By using the trains commuters will be spared rush hour car journeys that can take 90 minutes to travel 10 miles. Passengers will reach the city centre from Bury in just 25 minutes and from Altrincham in 25 minutes.

The Light Rapid Transit scheme will attract the first large investment in the country's railways for almost 100 years. More than 4,000 jobs will be provided to build the system. Lines will eventually serve Oldham, Rochdale, Marple, Hadfield and Glossop.

Sea search Murder called off inquiry

An air search for a trawler missing in the Channel with three people on board was called off last night. No decision has been made on whether to continue the search today.

Nothing has been heard of the 40ft Southern Enterprise since Wednesday, when it set off on a local fishing trip from Lymington, Hampshire, with a captain and two trainee crew members aged 16 on board.

Coastguard officials are baffled by the boat's disappearance. The names of the missing have not been released.

Runcie's radio prayer

The Archbishop of Canterbury is to make a rare live appearance on radio tomorrow to offer prayers for the release of Mr Terry Waite on the first anniversary of the envoy's disappearance in Beirut, where he was attempting to negotiate the release of American and British hostages.

Dr Robert Runcie will lead BBC radio's *Daily Service*, which will be conducted from the chapel of Lambeth Palace where, ever since Mr Waite went missing, a candle has been lit and daily prayers have been offered for his safety.

Driver is jailed

A man who killed three of his passengers in a car crash through reckless driving after he drank four pints of beer was jailed yesterday for 21 months and banned from driving for seven years at the Central Criminal Court.

But a blood sample from Robert Boardman, aged 23, of South Wimbledon, south-west London, showed he was under the legal limit.

Those killed were his girlfriend, Miss Kerry Pearce, his sister Sarah, and Mr Ernest Dale, all of south-west London. Two months after the crash Boardman was caught drink-driving.

Bank raid by 'bomb'

A raider stole thousands of pounds yesterday after walking into a bank carrying a holdall which he said contained a remote control bomb. He placed it in the middle of the floor at Lloyds bank in Redhill, Surrey, then went from till to till demanding money.

He left the "bomb" behind and police evacuated buildings in a 200-yard radius before blowing it up in a controlled explosion. The bag proved to be harmless.

The raider, who wore a flat cap and a scarf over his face, was said to have a pronounced limp.

Telecom cuts charges

British Telecom is cutting rental charges on many international private circuits leased by businesses by up to 40 per cent from February 1.

The move is in response to competition from rival networks such as Mercury and to the falling costs that have resulted from more advanced technology and increased traffic.

Rates for circuits over SatStream, Telecom's international satellite and cable service, will be cut by up to 15 per cent.

For private circuits to Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand, charges for digital services — designed especially for high-speed data links — will fall by 28 per cent, while those for analogue services will be reduced by 11 per cent.

Telecom is also dropping connection charges for most international leases taken for one year or more, and will launch its £70 million fibre-optic network in the City of London this month.

Poll tax is denounced as a snooper's charter

Scots set protest at Westminster

By Terry Gill

The 150-member Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, which represents every district and regional council in Scotland, will tomorrow hold an extraordinary meeting in Westminster to discuss the introduction of a community charge.

The Westminster venue is designed to cause the Government maximum embarrassment as delegates press their claim that the charge is unwelcome.

Political parties in Scotland, trades unions and civil liberties groups have labelled the poll tax a "snooper's charter" and an infringement of individual privacy.

Mr John Rafferty, secretary of the Scottish Campaign Against the Poll Tax, said the huge army of canvassers, who will soon visit every household in Scotland drawing up a tax register, will be empowered to ask searching

questions of anyone claiming exemption.

The questions would include: Is your daughter mentally handicapped? If so, how handicapped is she and is she handicapped enough to qualify for exemption? Is the woman you are cohabiting with your legal or common-law wife? Is your son still in prison and how long will he remain there? Your formerly dependent mother-in-law is in hospital. How long has she been there?

Mr Rafferty said his organization, supported by Labour politicians, unions and churchmen, was appalled at the potential infringement of privacy.

"We predict that there will be very arbitrary rules created for the mentally handicapped," he said, and quoted the example of a woman aged 28 with a mental age of seven who, because she lived at home and was able to visit a local skill centre, would

be liable to at least 20 per cent of the tax.

From April, a huge army of canvassers, many temporarily hired, will begin the task of listing every person in Scotland aged 18 and over who is liable to pay.

The Scottish Council of Civil Liberties said yesterday that fines of up to £200 could be levied on an individual who fails to answer the questions fully and who does not keep the information up to date.

Mr Peter Taylor, of the council, said: "It is going to be a new type of doorstep inquisition that we are not used to at all. It will lead to a very big increase in the amount of surveillance of the population."

The task of compiling the register and questioning the population will fall largely on the National and Local Government Officers' Association. Mr Matthew Smith, the union's senior district officer

for Scotland, said: "Our organization is against the principle of the poll tax itself. Politically there is mounting opposition."

Mr Smith said that the union's attitude to questioning the population would depend on the views of individual members. Branches, he said, would meet to discuss the implications.

Mr Eric Milligan, vice-president of the convention, said the tax would become unworkable if a significant proportion of people evaded payment. Scottish campaigners have estimated that about 20 per cent of the population could attempt evasion.

Mr Gordon Wilson, leader of the Scottish National Party, said: "We want a mass campaign for non-payment and we will seek a mandate for this from the electorate in this May's district council elections."

"The argument has gone beyond the question of

whether people like it or not. It is a question of what people are prepared to do about it."

The Labour Party is shortly to draw up its strategy to combat the introduction of the poll tax. Introduction will mean a bill in Scotland alone of about £40 million, of which £20 million will go towards new computer hardware.

Mr Rafferty estimated that there would be 800,000 changes a year in the register because of people dying, moving home, and changing jobs.

The number of changes in England and Wales, where the tax is to be introduced in April 1990, would be 10 million. "It is going to be a bureaucratic nightmare of gargantuan proportions", he said.

Strathclyde region, which accounts for about half of Scotland's five million population, will have to recruit another 200 people to its present establishment of 333 people in the regional assessor's office.

'Socialism to stay' pledge by Kinnock

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday launched an unprecedented campaign to consult public opinion about the programme on which Labour will fight the next election, but underlined that it would not be used to ditch socialist principles.

As he did so he acknowledged the spectre hanging over Labour's new campaign for the 1990s by again warning Mr John Prescott, his spokesman on energy, not to plunge the party into a potentially damaging eight-month contest for the deputy leadership.

With Mr Prescott believed to be on the point of announcing that he is to challenge Mr Roy Hattersley, Mr Kinnock said that a contest would be an "unforgivable distraction".

Mr Kinnock was questioned about the likely contest as he launched the Labour Listens campaign at Transport House. He said that the view of a considerable majority of the movement was that a contest would distract from the priorities facing the party.

He said that reaching outwards meant giving expression to the widespread antagonism that existed towards so many government policies, but it did not only mean opposing the Government.

"It also means taking the electorate into our confidence and enlisting their active advice and involvement in preparing our programme for government in the 1990s."

He said that Labour's bold campaign programme would place unprecedented demands of organization and activity on the party at all levels. He

added: "No activity deserves a higher priority."

In an obvious attack on the far left, which has said that he intends to abandon true socialist policies, Mr Kinnock said that people who were afraid "to relate their ideas to the needs and challenges of our age or to meet and listen to the electorate show a shallowness that is incompatible with socialism."

He said: "We are not an exclusive order that exists to talk to itself. We never have been. My commitment to mobilizing the party to attract the support of the public is total. The party's fortunes require that from every member."

Mr Kinnock made plain that he has told Mr Prescott he does not want a contest. "My view has been publicly and privately apparent, very directly, for a long time," he said in a Channel 4 interview.

Mr Hattersley said that if there was a contest it would be his determination to see that it did not "deflect us from the real job".

Mr Prescott is to attend a meeting of his Hull East constituency party tonight.

Mr Frank Dobson, Labour's campaigns co-ordinator, said: "The people of this country are sick and tired of being lectured by Mrs Thatcher on what is good for them. We are happy to be all ears — we leave it to the Tories to be all mouth."

Labour has sent a campaign guide to its workers, advising them how to organize their listening events, to canvass opinions on national issues and do telephone research.

Anti-terrorist publicity film defended

By John Cooney



Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, explaining his film yesterday.

Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, yesterday defended the Government's anti-terrorist publicity campaign from criticism that it is directed only against Irish republicans.

"It is not aimed at any section of the community," Mr Stanley said in reply to a question at a news conference at Stormont Castle. "It is aimed absolutely at those who are involved in terrorism on the 'loyalist' side as well as those who are involved in it in the republican side."

"Terrorism will be stopped only by the wholehearted support of the security forces by the entire community."

Mr Stanley was giving journalists a preview of a commercial film.

Entitled *You Can Help To Stop It - Now*, the commercial carries vivid re-enactments of a backyard murder, kidnapping, racketeering, the destruction of property, the loss of jobs and the climate of fear instilled by terrorists.

The commercial will be shown regularly on Ulster Television and Channel 4 during the next few months as part of the Government's £170,000 publicity drive to persuade more Ulster people to use confidential police telephone lines to pass on information about terrorism.

Mr Stanley said the film would appeal to nationalists and loyalists who support law and a decent way of life in the province. A wider issue was the encouragement the film would give to the huge majority of people who believe that defeating terrorism transcends loyalty or tradition.

So vivid are some of the scenes of simulated violence, that the Independent Broadcasting Authority ruled that the film should be broadcast only after 9 pm.

Dr Cahal Daly, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Down and Connor, yesterday called in Belfast for more specialized training for police and soldiers operating in sensitive areas.

Walsh victory on pit code

By Ian Smith

Mr John Walsh, the moderate National Union of Mineworkers presidential candidate, won a big victory yesterday against British Coal's disciplinary code of conduct, a union target which Mr Arthur Scargill, his rival, has found frustratingly elusive since its introduction 10 months ago.

Mr Walsh's negotiating acumen won a "substantial" financial settlement, thought to be a five-figure sum, for Mr Edward Scott, a union militant, who is almost certain to vote for Mr Scargill when the election begins at midnight on Thursday.

Mr Scott claimed unfair dismissal against British Coal, which dismissed him from the Stillingfleet colliery, North Yorkshire, on July 15 last year under the code of conduct.

The Coal Board had given two written warnings. Mr Scott had been held responsible for most of the 51 strikes that cost a shadow over the future of the £1.4 billion Selby colliery.

Last November Mr Scott was re-employed at Kellingly colliery. He retained his role as branch secretary of Stillingfleet and began an action for unfair dismissal. His colleagues immediately stopped overtime working, a

practice that gained national union approval, and which was absorbed into an overtime ban called four months later against British Coal's code of conduct.

British Coal refused to reinstate Mr Scott at the pit from which he was dismissed, but accepted that he should receive compensation for being moved to another pit not of his choice.

Mr Walsh spoke afterwards of the "triumph for common sense".

Mr Walsh said: "Obviously I am delighted that we have today proved that the disciplinary code of conduct is unworkable."

Liberal-SDP merger

Compromise dilemma for MacLennan

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The compromise 11-page policy document for a merged SDP and Liberal Party which was leaked last night is a bitter pill for Mr Robert MacLennan, the SDP Leader, to swallow.

Much shorter than the 6,000 word *Voices and Choices*, which was humiliatingly rejected by the entire corps of Liberal MPs and party officials after its production by Mr MacLennan and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, last week, it represents a significant watering down of that document to meet Liberal sensibilities.

Whereas the previous document was criticized by many Liberals as far too Thatcherite, too tough on nuclear defence and too market-oriented, the new one is anodyne, broad-brush and all-things-to-all-men.

There are no references to the possible relief of more VAT to food and children's clothing and the ending of universal child benefit. It is also considerably less forthright than its predecessor on

nuclear defence and nuclear civil power, two crucial issues for SDP supporters who might otherwise be inclined to join Dr David Owen's breakaway Campaign for Social Democracy.

This raises serious doubts as to whether Mr MacLennan can recommend it to the SDP membership after the warnings he has given to both parties about the need for a firm policy stance on nuclear defence and nuclear power.

The new document denied Mr MacLennan the firm commitments he had sought to both the Trident nuclear missile system and to the continuation of civil nuclear power.

Some SDP supporters were last night saying that the whole idea of a solid core of SDP policies being carried into the new party had been abandoned.

The six-man rescue committee, comprising Mr Des Wilson, Mr Alan Leaman and Mr Jim Wallace for the Liberals, and Mr Edmund Dell, Mr Tom McNally and Mr

David Marquand for the SDP, which drafted the new document over the weekend, has essentially produced little more than a blank cheque for the merged party.

On nuclear defence the leaders' document had said "for the foreseeable future Britain has no option but to retain and control its own modernized deterrent. By 1991 this will be Trident."

The new document, which bears no title but takes the form of a letter to the two beleaguered party leaders, says the merged party should be committed to NATO, opposed to "Star Wars", be an effective voice for disarmament and include Britain's nuclear weapons on appropriate disarmament negotiations.

Accepting that Trident would be substantially paid for and ready for deployment before they could hope to come to power, "the new party will therefore need to decide how to reconcile these changing realities with the manifest commitment to 'maintain our capability in the sense

of freezing our capacity at a level no greater than that of the Polaris system."

On nuclear power the leaders' document had stated that the new party would back the development of additional power sources, including "the most substantial at present, nuclear energy". The new document says: "We accept that the economic prospects and environmental implications of the civil nuclear power programme must be thoroughly and independently reviewed in order to assess the potential for safe nuclear energy."

On tax and social security the leaders' document said that the new party would investigate extending VAT to food and children's clothing, domestic fuel and newspapers; would phase out tax concessions on company cars; and would end the married man's tax allowance. It criticized universal child benefits as wasteful of resources.

The new document simply calls for a crusade against poverty.

BBC widens its window on the world

By Richard Evans

The world sent its largest postbag yet to BBC external services last year with the Chinese becoming the fastest growing letter writers to Bush House in London.

More than 530,000 letters, compared with 487,000 in 1986, arrived from some of the 120 million listeners who tune into the English-language World Service and 36 foreign-language services.

Letters from China in 1987, which totalled about 10,000 up to last October, swelled to

more than 5,000 in both November and December after the BBC's transmitter opened at Hong Kong.

One writer from Karelia in the northern Soviet Union, where jamming of BBC broadcasts ended a year ago, said: "I would surely never have written to you before but now in the era of glasnost it seems possible."

But the increase in correspondence, from 30 in 1986 to 250 last year, still suggests Russians have difficulty corresponding. One letter which did arrive was from a listener

with three criminal convictions who extolled the virtues of Soviet prisons.

The BBC says mail from behind the Iron Curtain "only gets through in dribs and drabs in relation to the size of the audience."

While 11,000 letters arrived from Poland in 1987 only 63 of those sent from Bulgaria reached London. Increasingly, the telephone seems to be preferred by some East European listeners.

Although the World Service is the flagship of BBC Ex-

ternal Services, more letters — 86,000 — were received in 1987 than any other language. One theory for that large correspondence is the closed nature of Burmese society, which means that the BBC external service provides one of the few outlets.

Mr John Tass, managing director of BBC External Broadcasting, said yesterday: "For the first time our programmes in English and Mandarin can be heard by a potential audience of one million people in China — and thousands of them are writing to tell us so."

IN COLOUR



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The Corps of Commissioners

Teacher 'flipped his lid and held wife by throat', court told

Philip Ashcroft, the teacher accused of conspiring with an attractive pupil to murder his wife, wept in Liverpool Crown Court yesterday as he admitted 'flipping his lid' and strangling her.

He also admitted asking the pupil, Angela Page, aged 18, to tie him up, in order to convince police that his wife's death was the result of a break-in by robbers.

Mr Ashcroft, aged 31, who has denied murder, but pleaded guilty to manslaughter, said the killing occurred during a violent domestic quarrel, after his wife, Glenys, had hit him with a milk bottle.

He told the court that he and his wife had been arguing over petty things since their summer holidays the previous year.

He said he looked after their daughter, Rachel, aged three, to a large degree. When she was ill, he would take the day off work while his wife, a nursery teacher, would go to work as normal.

On the day of the killing, Rachel was unwell, but he had to go to school to deal with important plans for the school band's forthcoming trip to France.

"Glenys would not stay off, and in the end I just left the house in the car and went to work. There had been a row about it."

He did not return home until about 10pm that night, after an evening band practice and a visit to the Griffin public house, near by in St Helens, Merseyside.

He said that when he arrived home, Rachel woke up and he went to her bedroom and read her a story.

When he went into his own bedroom, his wife asked him where he had been and in a

reference to a friend, Mr Bill Mercer, who used to call at the house, had added: "How do you know Bill has not been round?"

"I ruffled her hair and said something along the lines that I hoped she had enjoyed herself. I was only joking, but she was obviously very annoyed at my comment," Mr Ashcroft said.

"She took a swing at me and managed to scratch my nose and then she threw a wine bottle at me across the bedroom. I picked the bottle up and threw it back. It hit her on the top of the head and

I shouted to her to be quiet because I didn't want Rachel to wake up. I put my hand over her mouth and she bit my finger. I just flipped my lid. I grabbed her by the throat...

smashed. It seemed to cut her and she shouted, 'Look what you have done to me'."

Mr Ashcroft said he told her he was going and walked out of the bedroom. His wife shouted that she loved him, but ran out of the bedroom and said: "I'm going to stab you."

She ran downstairs and when he followed her, she emerged from the kitchen with a small peeling knife.

"I got the knife and threw it down the hall. We were rolling on the floor then. The next thing she hit me with a milk bottle. It smashed and she was still shouting."

"I shouted to her to be quiet because I didn't want Rachel to wake up. I put my hand

over her mouth and she bit my finger. I just flipped my lid. I grabbed hold of her by the throat and told her to shut up. She always had to get the last word in, screaming. I just remember panicking because I didn't want Rachel to come."

Asked how long he had held his wife by the throat he said: "I don't know how long it could have been. It could have been half an hour. I never thought about anything. I just wanted her to be quiet and stop screaming."

He said that afterwards, when he saw his wife lying limp, he thought she was joking, but then he realized she was dead. He said he tried to revive her, then began to consider his own position.

"I ran around pulling drawers out and got a spray can from the kitchen and sprayed it all over the walls. It was just a general mess. I intended going out again and coming back and saying that is how I found the house."

At that point, he said, Miss Page, who he had earlier asked to meet him for a drink at the Griffin, telephoned.

"I shouted at her to get up to the house straight away because there had been an accident," he said. Miss Page, who has also denied murder, arrived at about 10.30.

"She came into the house and just went white. She could see my wife. She insisted that I should ring my parents, but by that time I was just shouting at her to go into the front room."

He said he took a knife and cut the telephone wire, got some string from the kitchen, tied his feet and wrapped the string around his wrists. "I ordered Angela to knot it and then leave the house."

He said he told Miss Page to take a bag in which he had put some things from the house, and get rid of it for him or he would be in real trouble. "I forced her to do it," he said. "She didn't really want to."

Asked if he had ever discussed with Miss Page any desire for his wife to be dead, planned with her to kill her, or even contemplated killing his wife, Mr Ashcroft said he had not.

He also said that a love letter to Miss Page, intercepted by a prison officer as he awaited trial, had been written by other inmates who were aware of his case.

The trial continues.

Time flies for Tommy Sopwith



A Sopwith Pup (top) flying over Sir Thomas's home yesterday. Above left, Mr Tommy Sopwith points out the birthday fly-past for his father (Photographer: Harry Kerr). Right, the young Mr Sopwith in the cockpit of one of his pioneer aircraft.

Masterpieces of a lifetime in aviation took to the Hampshire skies yesterday to mark the hundredth birthday of the flying pioneer Sir Thomas Sopwith.

The achievements of one of the world's first pilots were also recognized in birthday telegrams from the Queen and other members of the Royal Family, the Prime Minister, and President Reagan.

Sir Thomas is best remembered for his Sopwith aircraft, of which more than 16,000 were built for action in the First World War. According to Sir Thomas's son, Mr Tommy Sopwith, President Reagan said that his generation remembered the heroic feats of the Sopwith planes, "as well known today as they were then as a result of a lifetime's achievement."

On the steps of his nineteenth century manor near Winchester, Sir Thomas said: "Mr Reagan sent me a very wonderful letter. He must have taken a lot of trouble."

Sir Thomas was just 16 when the Wright brothers flew under power for the first time in the United States. He taught himself to fly and as the noise of yesterday's fly-past subsided he recalled: "One had a lot of crashes in those days but it was fun!"

The outbreak of the First World War brought a demand for aircraft and Sopwith Aviation produced the Pup, the Snipe and the Camel. It was in a Sopwith Camel that Roy Brown shot down von Richthofen, the German air ace known as the Red Baron.

The fly-past in his honour was

organized by British Aerospace, which took over the Hawker Siddeley Group, of which Sir Thomas was chairman. First in the skies above Compton Manor was a converted Sopwith Pup, built after the First World War. It was followed by a Second World War Hurricane, 15,000 of which were built by Siddeley under Sir Thomas's chairmanship. Then followed three modern jets, a Harrier, a Hunter and a Hawk.

Sir Thomas was unable to see the fly-past because he is now blind but he heard the aerial tribute to him.

He got his first flying licence in 1910 after hearing of Blériot's cross-Channel flight. He was already an accomplished racing car driver and yachtsman and by 1912 had formed the Sopwith Aviation Company.

Portfolio Gold

The right time for a double win

Miss Judy Speight, aged 28, was the sole winner of £8,000 in The Times Portfolio Gold competition yesterday, double the usual amount as there was no winner last Saturday.

"I am not an especially lucky person, so this win comes completely out of the blue. It couldn't have come at a better time," Miss Speight, a secretary at an estate agency, said.

"I am in the process of decorating my new home so I will be spending quite a lot on furnishing."

She is getting married later this year and plans to spend the remainder of the money on a honeymoon in Paris.

Miss Speight, of Sowood Street, Leeds, said she had been reading The Times and playing Portfolio for many years.

She swims and looks for antiques in her spare time.

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:

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The Times,
PO Box 40,
Blackburn,
BB1 6AJ.

A coastal clean-up in Cumbria

By John Young

Cumbria's industrial coast, which has some of the most scarred landscapes in Britain, is to be cleaned up in a scheme which it is also hoped will create jobs.

With sponsorship from Barclays Bank, grants totalling up to £500,000 will be awarded for projects providing community service or employment for young people, it was announced yesterday.

The first grant, of £15,000, to the West Cumbria Groundwork Trust, will be used to employ a project leader for a programme to identify, plan and implement environmental projects, most of which will be centred upon the towns of Workington, Whitehaven, Maryport, and Cleator Moor.

The emphasis will be on derelict land clearance and the rehabilitation of landscapes and buildings. The trust said it would rely on volunteers, although it was hoped some of the projects would serve to create permanent jobs.

Deaths from asthma 'can be reduced'

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

Drugs which could reduce Britain's annual toll of about 2,000 deaths from asthma are not being prescribed sufficiently by doctors or taken properly by patients, according to specialists.

Attempts to cut the death rate have failed in spite of 30 years of progress in treatment and research, and there could

be widespread underuse of preventive treatment, they say.

Most of the sufferers who have a fatal attack show many symptoms in the previous weeks, but the warning signs are not heeded, research has shown.

A key problem is that doctors have concentrated on trying to relieve symptoms of asthma rather than tackling

the underlying causes, specialists say in a supplement of the British Journal of Clinical Practice.

But there is a major problem of patients who fail to take treatment properly as prescribed, they say.

About 2.7 million people suffer from asthma. Hospital admissions for acute attacks have doubled in the past 10 years, while the number of

children admitted has quadrupled.

Most asthmatics use bronchodilators in the form of aerosol inhalers, which act by relaxing the muscles surrounding the bronchial tubes, thus allowing the airways to widen.

But studies have shown that only 12 per cent of asthmatics use prophylactic drugs to prevent acute attacks.

Power of TV soaps studied

By Lynda Mardin

Television soap operas are to be the subject of a three-day conference. Its main question will be: do soaps imitate life or does life imitate soaps?

Writers, actors and critics will be among those discussing how viewers are affected by matters such as the morning sickness suffered by Michelle in EastEnders or Hilary Ogden's much lamented departure from Coronation Street.

The conference, called The Soap Opera: Mirror or Shaper of Society? has been organized by the St Catherine's Foundation.

About 45 participants are expected at Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park in March. Speakers will include the playwright Alan Plater, the television presenter Melvyn Bragg, the journalist Katharine Whitehorn and Piers Plowright from BBC Radio.

Mr Iain Lynch, the conference co-ordinator, said yesterday that the idea for the conference, thought to be the first of its kind, came after a recent survey in east London which showed soaps had a powerful influence on people.

Missing paperboy

Mother's plea as fears grow

By Craig Seton

The mother of the missing paperboy, Stuart Gough, aged 14, made an impassioned plea yesterday for his safe return as fears grew that he had been abducted.

Mrs Jean Gough, aged 44, a nurse, appeared at a press conference as senior police officers said that her son had "disappeared off the face of the earth" half-way through his regular newspaper round in the village of Hagley, near Kidderminster, Hereford and Worcester, on Sunday morning.

Yesterday, as anxious parents in the village escorted children on their newspaper rounds, Mrs Gough said: "Just bring him back", before collapsing into the arms of Mrs Pat O'Hara, a neighbour, and friend.

Mrs O'Hara said: "If anybody has got him, please let him come home and do not hurt him. Your mum and dad love you very much."

As the press conference went on at the community centre in Hagley, Stuart's father, Mr Geoffrey Gough, aged 55, joined more than 200 villagers gathering outside to search for his son, who suffers from asthma.

By mid-afternoon more

than 500 villagers had joined the search. More than 100 police officers, including mounted police and 30 dog handlers, organized villagers into teams to search the semi-rural area. A police aircraft was overhead, combing a 15-square mile area, including the Clent Hills near by.

Chief Superintendent Tony Warren, of West Mercia police, said that Stuart, a quiet and pleasant boy who was keen on computers and pop music, had disappeared between 8 am and 8.20 am on Sunday.

A nasal spray used by Stuart for his asthma attacks would last only a day if he was under stress. "There is no suggestion



Stuart Gough: parents in appeal to return.

that he intended to run away and the longer he is missing the more concerned I am."

Stuart failed to pick up papers for the second part of his round from a newsagent's shop in Worcester Road.

Mr Warren said that although newspapers had been delivered on the first part of his round, nobody had seen Stuart walking up drives or putting them through doors.

Detectives are liaising with police investigating the abduction last Friday of Claire Henderson, aged 14, from Cuddington, Cheshire. She was delivering newspapers when a bogus policeman tricked her into his car. She was driven into North Wales and assaulted before being released.

Mr Warren said he was keeping an open mind on any connection between the two cases.

Police were considering whether to take up an offer made by a local man of a £5,000 reward for information leading to Stuart's whereabouts.

Today a Hagley schoolboy, wearing clothes similar to Stuart's, will stage a reconstruction of his paper round on Sunday.

Christie's does justice to Chinese art

Christie's celebrated the end of the Chinese year with its most successful sale in Hong Kong yesterday - of nineteenth and twentieth century Chinese paintings.

Hailed by the auction house as the largest selection of such paintings ever assembled by it, the 300-strong offering achieved a total of 17.7 million Hong Kong dollars (£1.2 million), attracting Hong Kong dealers and American private collectors.

Executed in ink and wash on paper, in styles remarkable for combining virtuosity with flair, the paintings have not enjoyed high prices until now.

They usually depict flora and fauna, sometimes adding eagles to the branches of trees, sometimes people walking down below, as they go about their daily tasks.

The top price of 1.96 million dollars (£142,446) - also a

SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland

record for a single lot sold in Hong Kong - was for a set of four scrolls by Qiu Baishi (1863-1957). Each is decorated with a laden branch in earthy colours, now drooping in and off the picture space, now filling it up with heavy clusters of pomegranates, grapes or peaches. Estimated at up to one million Hong Kong dollars, the four paintings sold for nearly twice that price to a private buyer.

A runaway price of 990,000 dollars (£71,223) was for a single handscroll by Xu Gu (1824-1896). Coloured golden yellow, and elegantly decorated with orchids, chrysanthemums, narcissus and peonies, with an inscrip-

tion reading "Four Buddhist flowers", it fetched more than three times its estimate.

One artist just coming into his own, for prices, is Shi Lu, who died in 1982. "He is very much the flavour of the month, with a lot of new collectors coming into the field", Mr Colin Sheaf, of Christie's, said. A painting of roses and rock by this artist, estimated at up to 200,000 dollars, fetched 350,000 dollars.

Today the Christina Lake Balsara collection of Ming and Qing porcelain, a fine private collection of 45 lots including porcelain, sculpture, bronzes, snuff boxes, jades and ivory, will be sold at auction in Hong Kong.

A photographer and wife of an Asian perfume tycoon, Mrs Balsara has kept the collection in Durham, on loan to the Gulbenkian Museum of Oriental Art and Archaeology for the past 20 years.

It includes an exquisite cobalt blue and copper red pilgrim bottle from the Qianlong period (1735-1796) and decorated with a red bat, the symbol of happiness. The bottle is expected to sell for up to £25,000, and the whole collection in excess of £250,000.

Other fine items include a richly coloured Ming pen tray, decorated with a full-faced, five-claw dragon with a flaming pearl clenched in its jaws, estimated at up to £50,000, and a Ming blue and white dish decorated with a gardenia branch entwined with grapes, lotus and fruits. This is estimated at up to £100,000.

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January 18 1988

PARLIAMENT

Hurd postpones move on criminal trial 'ambushes'

The Government's attempt to tackle the use by a defendant of the "ambush" technique of unexpectedly producing a line of defence at trial has been deferred.

Moving second reading of the Criminal Justice Bill, which has already passed through the House of Lords, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said that while the argument for change was strong, he was persuaded that more careful work was needed on any change and the Bill was not the place for the provisions which would be needed.

He announced that the Government would table an amendment to the Bill to make it an offence to possess indecent photographs of children. He promised to consider a suggestion that the possession of such material should be made an arrestable offence.

He said that MPs should not be chauvinistic about changes in extradition procedures which would remove the requirement to prove a prima-facie case against the accused under English law when extradition applications were made.

They might be underestimating the sense of affront of some of our friends who were told that it was only by circumventing a system defined in purely English terms that they could receive into their jurisdiction people whom they believed had committed serious crimes.

He was not happy that people should be able to seek a haven in this country simply because the country which sought them was not able to frame its request in language which met the requirements of the present law.

Many regarded Britain as a haven for criminals. The single biggest impediment to their extradition was the demand to provide evidence which would amount to a prima-facie case.

Mr Alexander Carlile (Montgomery, I.) said that no British subject could be committed for trial in this country unless the prosecution established a prima-facie case against him. Why should a lower standard apply to British subjects and others who were being taken for trial abroad?

JUSTICE BILL

Mr Hurd said those who took that view were assuming that the procedures and standards of justice in other countries with which agreements might be made were in some way inferior. Otherwise the question did not arise.

Extradition agreements which dispensed with the prima-facie requirement would be subject to parliamentary approval. The fugitive had a statutory right to see the papers on which extradition was based, a statutory right to make representations to the Home Secretary and seven days to seek a judicial review of the order.

He wanted the United Kingdom to set the pace in international agreements and action to grip international crime.

The Home Office had considered whether extradition could be part of the answer to the problem of alleged war criminals and had come to the conclusion so far that it was not.

It was too serious a matter to be allowed to drag on but more work was needed before it would be possible to decide whether or in what way the law should be changed.

The police had made forceful representations to the Home Office that the present law on offensive weapons was too narrowly drawn.

Therefore the Bill now contained a new offence of having an article with a sharp blade or point in a public place without good reason. Included with this were the necessary police powers to stop and search.

"The old, the vulnerable, the whole of the law-abiding community, must feel confident that it is safe to go out on to the streets without fear of being stabbed."

In restricting the carrying of knives the Bill reversed the onus of proof and put it on to the person carrying the weapon. He had searched in vain to find an answer which would cause less offence to legal opinion but which still proved sound enough.

The Bill also prohibited ab-

solutely the manufacture, importation and sale of certain other types of weapons.

There seemed no logic in trying to ban the mail-order sale of knives, many of which had legitimate uses. But knuckledusters, from the stars and bands claws could have no conceivable legitimate use and the Government intended fully to block their supply.

At the heart of the Bill was a set of proposals for strengthening the procedures of justice, including the abolition of the statutory challenge in the selection of jurors.

There was also a modest, but important, move to make people aged between 65 and 70 eligible for jury service should they wish.

In instances of manifestly over-lenient sentences, which were few and far between, the Bill proposed that the Court of Appeal should be able to increase that sentence.

"It is a stronger proposal both in effect and in logic. If a mistake has been made, it is clearly sensible that there should be a way of putting that mistake right; not if newspapers or the Attorney General think so, but if the Court of Appeal decide it is right to do so."

The second procedural change would give the Court of Appeal wider powers to order a retrial whenever it was in the interests of justice. At present, the circumstances were strictly limited to instances where new evidence had come to light.

"The question in my mind is not whether a suspected or accused person should have the right to remain silent, if he chooses, throughout the investigation and trial. Obviously, he has, and should continue to have, that right."

He had listened carefully to the arguments provoked by his Police Federation lecture last July and was not convinced by the arguments in favour of "the right to ambush."

One of the Bill's main aims was to improve the position of the victims of crime, encouraging the courts to use compensation orders in a wider range of cases and creating a statutory right to compensation for the victims of violent crime.



The listening party: Mr Neil Kinnock under the scrutiny of Mr Roy Hattersley (left) yesterday while listening to Mr Frank Dolson. They were taking part in the launch of the "Labour Listens" policy review (Photograph: Dennis McNeelance).

Anonymity option 'a possibility'

CROCKFORD

It is a pity that some people have not behaved with the dignified restraint shown by Dr Runcie

The possibility of giving future authors of the preface to the biennial *Crockford's Clerical Directory* the option of writing anonymously or under their own name would be considered, Mr Michael Allison, representing the Church Commissioners, told the Commons during questions.

He said that the Church Commissioners and the Central Board of Finance are to review the arrangements to be made for the preface of future editions of *Crockford's* after the controversial anonymous preface, later disclosed to have been written by Dr Gareth Bennett, in the current edition.

Dr Bennett was found dead after controversy about the preface.

Mr Allison said that it had been a long-standing tradition to include in each edition an anonymous preface in which the author was given freedom to express his personal views.

Although some earlier prefaces have proved controversial, the extent of the controversy over the current edition was "clearly quite exceptional" and it was because of that that the review would take place.

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing North, I.) said that he had known Dr Bennett for more than 20 years and paid tribute to

his mastery of theology, his erudition and his warm and compassionate personality.

Would the preface, which had been so valuable over the years, continue? And in their considerations, would the Church Commissioners consider giving the author the option to be open or anonymous? If anonymity were chosen, would it be respected in all circumstances?

Mr Allison said that what Mr Greenway had said about Dr Bennett would be appreciated in Church of England circles. Future anonymity of the preface would be reviewed.

Mr Frank Field (Birkenhead, Lab) said that the preface was a serious piece of work and the Church would do well to consider it carefully at the next synod and beyond.

"Having a preface which is unsigned can lead to unfortunate consequences when a person has to be about the author."

Mr Allison said that Mr Field had featured personally in the preface. In weighing his points, Dr Bennett himself had been at some pains for the preface to be signed to hand the standard tradition of anonymity, which he had said he found useful and helpful.

"But if it leads to anonymous authors having to repudiate their authorship by lying, this must be a point which the commissioners will have to consider in future."

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C) said that the important thing was the substance of the preface and not whether it was anonymous or not. That was not any concern of the House.

"While some of us may from time to time criticize the hierarchy, surely it behoves us now, because of the Church's present difficulties, to do all we can to back up those good and godly men dealing with the Church of England affairs."

Mr Allison agreed. "This preface was an exceptionally vigorous and stimulating analysis of a wide range of issues, including the wider implications

for the Anglican communion and certain practices in relation to practices overseas. It was well worth reading and writing."

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C) said that it was a pity that some people had not behaved with the dignified restraint that Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, had shown. "It would be good if some of those who talk about (the preface) were to read it."

Mr Allison agreed. Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) asked Mr Allison: As a background to the affair, would he agree that up and down the country thousands of parish priests are selflessly giving dedicated service to their parishioners, but many feel that their work is being undermined by a handful of politically motivated bishops?

Mr Allison endorsed Mr Adley's view "that the heart and soul of the Church of England are the millions of parishioners who get on with the daily work of Christian living and worship in their parish churches."

He added: On the more controversial point about the bishops, I am only too glad when Conservative bishops speak out in a Conservative frame, but controversy has always been a feature of the Christian religion."

It's all a matter of MPs' fudge

Takings at the House of Commons for the last year amounted to £525,796, of which £183,620 was taken during the month before Christmas. Mr Charles Irving (Cheltenham, C), chairman of the catering sub-committee of the services committee, told the Commons during question time.

He was hoping that the total figure at the end of the financial year would be another record, he said in response to Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing North, C).

Mr Greenway also offered Mr Irving congratulations for introducing House of Commons fudge (laughter). He wondered why it cost £2.50 a tin when the same quantity could be had for only £1.

Mr Irving said that Mr Greenway was an expert at fudge (laughter). He would know that there was a difference between quality and quantity.

Protest at change plan

There were protests from backbenchers at a suggestion that applications for leave to introduce Bills under the 10-minute rule procedure should be made at the end of a day's business, instead of after question time and statements.

Mr Jeremy Hanley (Richmond and Barnes, C) said that the present system caused delays to public business. Such applications should be made at the end of the day during the parliamentary session 1986-87.

Mr John Wakeham, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, said that the 10-minute rule procedure was an important way to draw attention to a matter which an MP attached particular importance. Changing the timing in the way suggested would rob the procedure of some of its value.

Staff wages criticized

The wages and working conditions of some staff employed at the Commons were paltry by comparison with standards outside. Mr Desmond Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said during Commons questions.

"There have been several instances recently of some of the staff being treated, particularly by Tory MPs, as if it was *Upstairs, Downstairs*."

He asked Mr Alan Beith, representing the House of Commons Commission, if efforts could be made "to stop this nonsense."

Mr Beith said that the day-to-day working of the refreshment department was a matter for the departmental head. But the pay and conditions of staff compared favourably with those elsewhere.

Money for HIV study

The Government is to give an additional £700,000 to the Medical Research Council to help with extra research on the spread of HIV, the Aids virus, in heterosexuals. Mr Robert Jackson, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in a written Commons reply.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Education and Science; Prime Minister; Debate on Opposition motion "The current crisis in the NHS". Lords (2.30): Legal Aid Bill, committee, third day.

Lords defeat for the Government

The Government suffered its first defeat of the session in the House of Lords when peers narrowly approved an Opposition amendment aimed at preventing the future withdrawal of legal aid and assistance for certain legal work, such as wills and conveyancing.

The amendment, moved by Lord Mishcon on the second day of the committee stage of the Legal Aid Bill, was approved by 94 votes to 92 - majority against the Government, 2.

Lord Mishcon, an Opposition legal affairs spokesman, said that he was pressing the amendment to the vote in sheer protest at the legislative procedure proposed.

The Bill was an enabling measure that gave the Lord Chancellor the power at a later stage to exclude certain work from the "green form" scheme through regulations. However, such regulations could not be amended by the House of Lords.

The White Paper on legal aid had stated the Government's intention to contract out the provision of advice and assistance to advice and law centres. It had also talked of exempting certain work from the legal aid scheme.

At the very least peers might feel that there should be an authoritative declaration at this stage as to what the Government had in mind by way of exclusions.



Lord Mishcon: Demanding vote as a protest.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, said that what the Government had in mind was to give the necessary power to make the "green form" scheme available, "subject to certain matters."

No conclusion had yet been reached on these issues. The aim was to get approval under the Bill for the general structure of legal aid. Then it would be right to look at the details.

Lord Mishcon replied that the House of Lords was walking into a dangerous parliamentary chapter in the history of legislation when it could be said: "Do not expect this in primary legislation, we are thinking the thing over, we want to be flexible, our minds might change" and do it by regulation.

Walker rejects complaint More cash demanded for NHS

WALES

The £6,000 million that the Chancellor was likely to give away in tax cuts in his next Budget to enrich the already rich would be better used to help the health service in Wales, Mr Alan Williams, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales, said during questions.

He asked for confirmation that the rate of increase of spending on the health service in Wales under the present Administration was half what it had been under the previous Labour Government.

Was the Secretary of State not ashamed by the fact that, while the Chancellor gave away billions of pounds in tax cuts, all that the health service in Wales and the beleaguered health authorities were offered was an extra £3.8 million this year and a standstill in finances next year?

"Bearing in mind the cash crisis of chest, kidney-dialysis and acute services and the far-too-long waiting lists, is it not wrong that the Chancellor should use resources further to enrich the rich instead of improving the health service for our people?"

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, said that a bit of money was not a minister in the Government that made the biggest cuts in the capital investment programme in the health service of any post-war government.

He sat there without a whim-

per, complaint or a single word. And if he is proud of the fact that when he went out of office he was spending £8 a week a day waiting lists, is it not wrong that the Chancellor should use resources further to enrich the rich instead of improving the health service for our people?"

Answering an earlier question about the relationship between the closure of National Health Service beds and wards to the increase in private beds, Mr Walker said that the important thing to measure was the number of patients being treated.

These numbers were at record levels, much above those of a few years ago, and the upward trend was continuing.

"The important judgement is whether that does continue. Of course there are increasing demands on the health services, all sorts of new breakthroughs in medicine have taken place. That is why the Government is increasing expenditure to the degree it has done and is continuing to do so."

Later Mr Ian Grist, Under Secretary of State for Wales, said that the Government was doing its best to bring the facilities in Cardiff and the South Glamorgan Health Authority was now advertising for a surgeon specializing in such work.

Mr Ray Hughes, an Opposition spokesman on Wales, said that people expected more than crocodile tears from the minister.

"There is now a serious concern about the lack of urgency in providing these facilities for children which are so badly needed. Imagine the expense and inconvenience of taking a young child to Southampton or London."

When would such facilities be available in Wales and was their absence yet another example of the underfunding of the NHS?

Mr Grist said that Mr Hughes did a disservice to the medical

treatment were forced to travel to London, Bristol or Southampton. He called for an assurance that a unit would be set up in Cardiff before the end of the year.

Mr Grist said that 57 children in Wales were notified in 1986 as having been born with heart or circulatory-system malformation.

The position of such babies and their parents was distressing, but operations to correct such defects were extremely skilled and expensive and relatively new.

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When would such facilities be available in Wales and was their absence yet another example of the underfunding of the NHS?

Mr Grist said that Mr Hughes did a disservice to the medical

profession who provided the skills. The 57 children suffering from such defects were a small but important number.

Further questions to the Secretary of State included the following: Mr Walker told MPs that he was ready to lay a wager that the principle would not be the region worst affected by unemployment at the end of 1988.

He was replying to Mr Ray Hughes, who said that the number employed in Welsh Development Agency factories had gone down in recent years.

Mr Walker replied that he would take a wager about the results of 1988. If Wales was not worse than any other region of Britain, perhaps Mr Hughes would give a donation to a mutual charity.

He should be delighted that the biggest fall in unemployment in Wales since the Second World War had taken place in the last 12 months.

Earlier, Mr Rhodri Morgan (Cardiff West, Lab) said that Mr Walker had made the extraordinary claim last week that he was increasing the allocation of regional aid when he was in fact cutting it.

Mr Walker replied that it was remarkable that the biggest single increase in regional aid in one single term in real terms on any occasion should find Mr Morgan so distressed. His constituents would not be.

Minister admits his fears

A Labour MP said that Mr Peter Walker had voted for the community charge legislation out of personal ambition or from fear of Mrs Thatcher led Mr Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, to the joking admission that both might have been responsible.

Mr Ron Davies (Caerphilly, Lab) had asked Mr Walker to acknowledge that in Mid Glamorgan, a county with the worst social and economic deprivation in Wales, every household would be worse off with the community charge.

Mr Walker's displeasure and distaste for the measure had been evident at the debate on second reading. When he had gone against his better judgement and voted for the Bill, which had been uppermost in his mind - personal ambition or fear of the Prime Minister?

Mr Walker said that he did not understand how such a question could be asked when the community charge would be a better system. The suggestion that every household would be worse off was nonsense. Many people, including single parents, widows and those who had carried an unfair burden in the past would be better off.

Only 15 per cent of local government spending in Wales would be financed by the community charge.

Zircon spy journalist honoured

A journalist responsible for a banned television programme about the proposed Zircon spy satellite yesterday featured in the Freedom of Information Awards.

Mr Duncan Campbell's programme was one of a series he made for the BBC, called *Secret Society*, and was withdrawn after legal action by the Government. The awards are made by the Campaign for Freedom of Information.

The group said that in spite of "a near-hysterical and subsequently discredited response to one of the programmes, this series represented a well-substantiated exposure of the unnecessary level of secrecy in Britain."

Another Freedom of Information Award for 1987 was made to Mr Archy Kirkwood, the Liberal MP for Roxburgh and Berwickshire. He introduced a private member's Bill on access to personal files. It became law last May.

The awards were presented in London by Mr Seymour Hersh, a United States journalist who has won the American Pulitzer Prize.

Reduced rate may force out solicitors

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Proposals to scrap the statutory duty on the Lord Chancellor to give "fair" rates of pay to lawyers doing criminal legal aid will force increasing numbers to drop out of the work, the Law Society and General Council of the Bar say today.

In a joint statement to coincide with the committee stage of the Legal Aid Bill in the Lords, the two bodies say that legal aid rates of pay are already inadequate and that a "second class service is imminent."

"Increasing numbers of solicitors are being forced to give up criminal legal aid work," they say. "More will follow if the Legal Aid Bill, as proposed, scraps the obligation for lawyers doing legal aid work to be paid fairly."

A survey by the Law Society last year of 300 firms doing legal aid work has shown that 26 have already stopped doing the work. Mr Peter Soar, a one-man firm in Cambridge, said yesterday: "I stopped doing criminal legal aid a year ago, along with a number of



Lord Ackner: tabled two amendments to the Bill.

others". It was no longer viable to do it, he said.

The next area of legal aid work to be dropped would be matrimonial, for which the Government has brought in fixed rates of pay, and after that the threat would extend across the board, since the Legal Aid Bill proposed standard or fixed fees for all legal aid work.

Bristol Law Society has said that the legal aid service is at breaking point because of the numbers dropping out. The fees for criminal legal aid work

are often 25 per cent below the levels for other legal aid work, according to Mr Bill Owen, joint secretary of the 600-member society.

In the last month two big Bristol practices - Osborne Clarke, and Trump and Partners - have had to pull out from criminal legal aid because it is no longer competitive for them to do the work.

A survey for the Law Society in 1986 showed that the net fee income of a solicitor doing legal aid work dropped from £20,500 a year to £9,400 if 30 per cent of his work was through legal aid. In firms with five to 14 partners, the figure was £54,000 to £28,000.

Under the Government's Bill, the legal profession will be subject to the "Lord Chancellor's unfettered discretion to fix all fees at whatever level he is able - or prepared - to negotiate with the Treasury", the Bar says.

The Law Society says that a legal aid service paid for at poor rates will inevitably become a poor service and the result will be two classes of justice: one for those who can afford to pay and one severely

inadequate for those who cannot.

The society and the Bar are pressing an amendment to the Bill, tabled by the distinguished law lord, Lord Ackner, which would oblige the Government to be bound by a duty to give fair rates of pay.

The Bill also entitles the Lord Chancellor to take account of other demands on the public purse when fixing rates of pay, the two bodies accept that as a legitimate consideration.

But they say: "Rates of pay must be sufficient to ensure the service Parliament wants can realistically be provided."

If not, the Government can conceal cutbacks in the service simply by making less money available to pay the lawyers and, inevitably, "practitioners would find the work uneconomical and the service to the public would suffer."

Lord Ackner is also tabled an amendment for the setting up of new pay machinery between the profession and the Government, which would have the task of advising on appropriate rates.

Shop trip costs two their jobs

Two ambulancemen who stopped on their way to hospital so that one of their wives could go shopping lost their case for unfair dismissal at a Nottingham industrial tribunal yesterday.

Mr Alan Woodward, of Willford Village, Nottingham, and his colleague, Mr Ron Jones, of Clifton, Nottingham, were dismissed last July for gross misconduct.

Nottingham Health Authority said patients were kept waiting outside a supermarket after Mr Jones gave Mr Woodward's family a lift there in his ambulance.

Mr Woodward was also accused of taking time off work and letting his children run amok at Willford ambulance station.

The pair argued that all ambulance drivers in Nottingham used their vehicles for private trips.

Mr Andrew Browne, chairman of the tribunal, said: "The two men were advised to resign and to make any comment during the investigation. This was dissuasive advice. Their boss acted reasonably to dismiss them."

Poor image blamed for shortage of lawyers

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The poor public image of solicitors, coupled with relatively poor pay and prospects, is causing a national shortage of lawyers in all fields of work in both private and public sectors, the Young Solicitors' Group says in a report published yesterday.

The recruitment crisis has become so acute that it is a problem even in London for the West End and small City firms who have difficulty recruiting qualified staff for litigation and commercial conveyancing.

Even the big City firms, which used to be able to recruit high-calibre newly-qualified solicitors at the expense of the smaller firms, are having problems, the report says.

They have had to start recruiting from much further afield, such as from Scotland, Australia and New Zealand.

There is also a great shortage in local government, compounded by "underfunding, adverse publicity and the fact that solicitors are not well-informed of the opportunities available for them in local government."

"Across the board the profession is losing to other professions and to industry 'where the initial salaries and perks are far more attractive than in the solicitors' profession and a fast career progression can be seen'."

Statistics commissioned by the Law Society from Mr P G Mather, assistant to the master of the Polytechnic of Central London, show there are fewer admitted solicitors than in 1980-81, particularly men.

Although the numbers of women are increasing, many drop out after 10 years for family reasons.

The group, which represents solicitors under 36, calls for steps to present a better image of the profession to young people before they apply for higher education to encourage them to opt to study law.

The Law Society should continue pressure on the local authority to give mandatory rather than discretionary grants for the common professional examination and finals course and provide more vocational training places at the college of law and polytechnics, the group says.

سكراي اول



Don't be deceived by the size of a 190. The moment you take the wheel and take to the road you'll realise it's a Mercedes-Benz in full measure.

Safety features are not compromised. Comfort and ride are not compromised. Handling and agility are not compromised. Build quality is not compromised. Consequently a 190 is a complete Mercedes-Benz in every respect except one - it occupies less road space.

To match the ride of the larger Mercedes-Benz the engineers developed a completely new type of suspension system for the 190 series. It consists of a unique multi-link arrangement at the rear and shock absorber struts at the front. Though more expensive to make than conventional systems, it results in a ride that is superior to even the largest cars of the competition.

This suspension system, coupled with a sympathetic drive train and a range of very lively engines make the 190 series extremely rewarding to drive. At any speed they are as quiet as limousines. They will ghost over rough city streets. At motorway cruising speeds the superb aerodynamics and under-stressed engines create the type of relaxed, secure environment that is the hallmark of the larger Mercedes-Benz models.

There are only two occasions when the compact nature of the 190 becomes apparent: when it's being forced through a tight corner or parked in a tight space.

Inside this 190 there's a larger Mercedes-Benz ready to come out



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MODEL	ENGINE (CC)	NO OF CYLINDERS	BHP (DIN)	0-100 MPH SECS	MPH	MPG URBAN	LITRES 100 KM	MPG 100 KM
PETROL 190	1997	4	105	12.4	115	26.5 (10.6)	48.0 (15.9)	30.9 (17.7)
190E	1997	4	122	10.5	121	27.6 (10.3)	48.9 (15.8)	36.2 (17.5)
190E 2.3-16	2299	4	180	7.5	142	24.4 (11.6)	45.6 (6.2)	35.7 (17.9)
190E 2.6	2559	6	166	8.9	134	22.6 (12.5)	42.1 (16.7)	33.2 (18.5)
DIESEL 190D	1997	4	72	17.9	100	35.8 (17.9)	53.3 (15.3)	40.9 (16.9)
190D 2.5	2497	5	90	15.1	108	32.8 (18.6)	51.4 (15.5)	39.5 (17.1)

Condensing all of the essential qualities of Mercedes-Benz into the appealing shape of the 190 has produced a remarkable car. Not only does it incorporate the passenger safety cell and controlled-deformation crumple zones first invented by Mercedes-Benz, it has the build quality, dependability and high retained value the world has come to expect from the marque. It is a complete Mercedes-Benz in every respect, only a little easier to park.

Mersey tunnel fraud

Thieving vehicle toll men enjoyed luxury lifestyles

Tunnel toll collectors amassed more than £1 million of ratepayers' money in a series of frauds at Mersey tunnels.

Money handed over by motorists at the tunnels was siphoned by the collectors regularly, earning the gang as much as £11,000 a week.

Eighteen men have been convicted at Liverpool Crown Court in trials on charges of theft and dishonesty. They were charged with exploiting the introduction of automatic cash counting technology to siphon funds.

The frauds were stopped when, in an operation codenamed "Abacus", more than 100 detectives swooped on the toll collectors, arresting 38 men and raiding their homes on December 19, 1985.

The collectors enjoyed a luxurious lifestyle. One owned three cars, a boat and a caravan on his annual salary of £10,000. Another had accumulated funds of up to £60,000. A third member of the syndicate had more than a year's unopened wage packets in his house.

Mr John Wilkinson, tunnels chief auditor, who uncovered the fraud, said: "It was all down to each individual's greed to determine how much

extra they took home at the end of the day."

Seventy toll collectors are responsible for charging vehicles passing through the Birkenhead and Wallasey tunnels. A toll of 40p per car was charged at the time of the thefts.

In 1980, work on the introduction of a computerized system was started, with drivers dropping cash into a collecting hopper.

Meanwhile, a stop-gap method was introduced and toll collectors were given tickets to dispatch to each motorist. If a driver did not take the ticket, the operator would pocket the money and hand the ticket to the next car.

Another method involved issuing a 20p motor-cycle ticket to a lorry paying £1.

When the automatic system was introduced, the collectors devised a way to close down communications between the central computers and the counting room, where they stole more money.

The administrators of the tunnel toll system attributed the loss of revenue to cheaper public transport fares, which they thought had discouraged tunnel users from travelling

by car. But in April 1985, auditors discovered that thousands of pounds were being taken from the cash room.

An anonymous letter was sent to the administrators, informing them about the fraud. After a lengthy inquiry, detectives closed the tunnels on December 19, 1985, and swooped on the men.

Of 38 arrests, 28 were charged and two have since died. The men were suspended on full pay, pending their trial, and those who were found not guilty have been reinstated. Three weeks after the police inquiry was completed, revenue from the tunnels rose by £11,000 a week.

Det Supt Bob Coady, who led the police investigation, said: "Certain individuals have obviously made a lot of money. Their lifestyles exceeded what one would expect for their income."

"One had in excess of £50,000 to £60,000 in various places. Some people had not been using their wages, and were living off whatever they took."

Mr Wilkinson said: "When the evidence became available about irregularities, it was

acted upon immediately. Suspecting something and proving something are two very different things."

Judge Temple banned reporting on the trials until the last case was heard. He is expected to sentence the 18 convicted men this week.

The trial of three collectors, said to have stolen more than £300,000 in tolls at the Tamar bridge linking Devon and Cornwall, was halted at Plymouth Crown Court yesterday when a juror disclosed that he had worked with a relative of one of the defendants.

The case will begin afresh today, when a new jury is sworn in.

The toll collectors, Alan Hutchinson, aged 56, Mansour Eskandary, aged 32, and Robert Collings, aged 42, all of Plymouth, earlier pleaded not guilty to charges of theft.

Mr Anthony Dome, for the prosecution, had said the alleged fraud, between February 1982 and September 1986, was uncovered by police using binoculars to watch the bridge.

The collectors had returned used vouchers, pocketing motorists' money themselves, he said.

Pride is sailing back into Hartlepool



By Peter Davenport

"When this ship was built, it took 2,000 men two years," Stant Macrell paused to peer through the captain's stern gallery (above) in the wooden warship, Foudroyant. "We've got just 70 to put her back into shape."

The 38-gun frigate was built in 1817 in Bombay and ended her working days as a training ship for boy seamen. Now, laid up at Hartlepool, she is giving new life to generations of expertise that Hartlepoolians thought had died with Gony's shipyard, 25 years ago.

Shipwrights sold off tools they inherited from their fathers. The lucky ones turned to other industries, the rest to unemployment queues. Today, their skills are back in daily use at the Hartlepool Ship Restoration Company.

After the acclaimed, \$6 million restoration of HMS Warrior, Britain's first ironclad warship, now on permanent display in Portsmouth, the team that carried out the work has created a new industry.

The company has millions of pounds worth of work on its order book. It has

established a worldwide reputation and has branched out into the profitable sideline of building replica ships. It is at present working on two, worth about £2 million, for London's Tobacco Dock. Awaiting restoration with Foudroyant is HMS Minerva, a Monitor-class ship which took part in the Gallipoli campaign.

Restoration of Foudroyant, originally named HMS Trincasselle, is expected to cost about £3 million.

Photograph: Ted Ditchburn

Reluctant sellers push home prices

By Christopher Warren, Property Correspondent

The reluctance of house owners to sell is causing a shortage of supply which could push property prices up, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says in its latest survey published today.

In its survey for the quarter to the end of December, it says there is a general shortage of property, partly due to owners being reluctant to sell while property values are still rising, together with a tendency for vendors to wait until the traditional spring selling period. Indeed, if demand continues to outstrip supply, price increases will persist.

The housing market showed few signs of the usual Christmas holiday lull, with demand remaining strong. Half the 154 estate agents contributing to the survey reported increases of 2 per cent in the quarter, while 18 per cent reported increases of 5 per cent.

The institution adds that last month's slowing market

in the South-east was relatively short-lived. "Agents have reported an air of market confidence with little evidence of a Christmas lull."

Mr Peter Miller, the institution's housing market spokesman, said that December saw greater than expected activity.

A survey of Yorkshire and Humberside reports says prices increased steadily over the past 12 months.

About 65 per cent of agents reported price increases of 2 per cent, and none a decrease, in the quarter to the end of December.

New business had been attracted to enterprise zones after a number of difficult years for the steel and other industries.

● The Leeds Permanent Building Society reports a 19.2 per cent annual increase in house prices, and expects the rate of increase to remain in double figures this year.

Jury hears of martial arts course

John Duffy, the alleged "railways killer" regularly attended martial arts classes where painful and paralyzing techniques were taught, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mr David Archer, a former self defence instructor, said Mr Duffy, aged 30, was "a very quick learner".

Mr Archer was giving evidence on the fifth day of the trial in which Mr Duffy has denied murdering two women and a schoolgirl aged 15, and raping seven women.

Mr Archer, aged 31, said he ran classes which included teaching "nerve holds", techniques which paralysed an opponent.

He said Mr Duffy missed a class in July 1986. A friend informed him that Mr Duffy had been mugged and had suffered loss of memory.

The prosecution has alleged that on the day Mr Duffy was interviewed in connection with the charges against him, he claimed amnesia.

Asked whether Mr Duffy had any difficulty in remembering things when he returned to classes, Mr Archer replied: "Not at all". The trial continues.

Court told of man's awful grin

A business woman told the Central Criminal Court yesterday that she saw the man accused of strangling seven old people with a "terrible grin" on his face on the day he allegedly killed his last victim in a flat near by.

Miss Denise Keena, aged 25, told the jury that she saw Kenneth Erskine leaning over the rail of Putney Bridge, south-west London, apparently being sick.

When Miss Keena was about eight feet away he looked over his shoulder at her and she saw his expression. "It was a sort of terrible grin. It was a horrible, disgusting, awful expression. He had wide and staring eyes. His mouth was open."

The encounter came on the evening of July 23, 1986 - the day of the Duke of York's wedding - and the day when Mr Erskine's alleged seventh victim, Mrs Florence Tisdall, aged 83, was found murdered at her home in Ranelagh Gardens Mansions, Ranelagh Gardens, Fulham.

Mr Erskine, of no fixed address, denies murdering Mrs Tisdall and six other elderly people.

The trial continues today.

Pop stars 'did not play on group's first hits'

Members of the pop group, Frankie Goes To Hollywood, had little to do with its first two records, which both went to number one in the music charts, a court was told yesterday.

The songs contained "no performance by members of the band", apart from the voice of the lead singer, Holly Johnson - and even that had to be subjected to a considerable amount of work to "bring it into line musically", Mr Andrew Bateson, QC, said.

The records, "Relax" and "Two Tribes", were the result of the expertise of top record producer, Trevor Horn, using high technology recording equipment and session musicians. Mr Bateson told Mr Justice Whitford, QC, in the High Court.

The record company, Zang Tumb Tumb, and the music publishers, Perfect Songs,

seek injunctions preventing Holly Johnson from going solo and working for other companies. They claim he will be in breach of agreements with them if he does.

After "Relax" reached number one in 1983, Mr Horn dropped other work, at a cost of £50,000, to concentrate on producing a follow-up.

The next work was an album called Welcome to the Pleasance Dome and "the band did perform some of the songs on this", Mr Bateson said. But again the work done by Mr Horn was "very substantial".

In 1985 Mr Johnson announced that he planned to leave the group.

Mr Johnson denies breach of agreements. He is fighting the move to ban him from continuing his career with other companies and is counter-claiming that he is still owed money.

The hearing continues.

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Warning: MORE THAN 30,000 PEOPLE DIE EACH YEAR
IN THE UK FROM LUNG CANCER
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WORLD ROUNDUP

Whites held by Zimbabwe police

Harare — Five whites, one a British citizen, are under arrest in the western city of Bulawayo after a series of arrests on Sunday (Jan Raath writes). Lawyers have not been granted access to the five, one of them a woman, and no reason for their arrest has been given by police.

Residents say the city is still tense after the car bomb on Monday last week that nearly demolished a building used by the African National Congress and killed two people. On Sunday plain-clothes police burst into the home of Mr Rory Maguire, a Bulawayo garage owner, and took his wife, their two children, and Mrs Maguire's elderly parents into custody. All but Mr Maguire were released after two hours but found their house locked and armed guards stationed outside.

Later on Sunday four others were picked up, including Mr Michael Howard, an employee of Mr Maguire's and a Zimbabwean resident born in Britain. A lawyer said it was hoped access to those arrested would be granted today.

Roh offer Barre will to Kims campaign

Seoul (Reuters) — Mr Roh Tae Woo, South Korea's president-elect, made an unprecedented offer yesterday to share his administration with opposition members.

"I will ask the opposition to recommend appropriate politicians to fill some Cabinet portfolios," Mr Roh told reporters, but did not elaborate.

There was no immediate reaction from opposition leaders such as Mr Kim Young Sam and Mr Kim Dae Jung, defeated by Mr Roh in presidential elections a month ago. The poll, the first free direct presidential vote in 16 years, was declared fraudulent by the opposition.

Jet lands under fire

Lisbon (AFP) — Anti-aircraft fire narrowly missed a Portuguese airliner carrying 263 passengers as it came in to land at the airport serving the Angolan capital, Luanda, last week, the national airline TAP confirmed yesterday. An airline spokesman said the pilot had reported seeing tracer bullets passing close by as he was landing.

The Angolan Government has started an inquiry. The daily paper, *O Dia*, said that those on board included the Portuguese and Spanish ambassadors to Angola and the Portuguese consul. It quoted one passenger as saying shells skimmed past the pilot's cabin, just missing it.

Clean MP Prize for Britons

Tokyo — A member of the upper house of the Japanese Parliament has resigned from the opposition Clean Government Party after allegations that he accepted a bribe of about £40,000 (David Watts writes).

Mr Fujio Tashiro, aged 56, was questioned about the money which was said to have been paid by an association of gravel ship operators in return for representations he made on their behalf to the government of Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone. Mr Tashiro denied taking a bribe, saying the money was a political donation.

Key minister quits

Colombo — The Sri Lankan Finance and Planning Minister, Mr Ronney de Mel, aged 62, right, left his post yesterday after President Jayawardene made it clear to him that he could no longer remain in the Cabinet after criticising the Government in Parliament last month (Vijitha Yapa writes). Mr de Mel, who was finance minister for 10 years, said that he had stopped calling Sri Lanka a democracy after 1982 when a controversial referendum was held by the President to extend the term of Parliament by another six years instead of holding a general election which was due in July 1983.

"We need fresh elections, we must hold elections before the people rise up and say in God's name go," he told Parliament last month to cheers from opposition benches. He also said the present Parliament was stale and obsolete. His colleagues protested to the President who after studying the text of what Mr de Mel said asked him to leave the Cabinet.

Curfew starves Gaza refugees into submission

From Ian Murray
Khan Yunis
Occupied Gaza Strip

The hunger has begun to bite and the medical problems to hurt as the curfews begin to take effect. It is certainly proving a successful policy in keeping the area quiet, although at considerable human cost.

All eight of the refugee camps were under curfew yesterday, with troops at roadblocks stopping and searching cars on the north-south road.

The curfew came into force at the camp here before any of the other ones. Troops closed all its entrances on January 5 and since then the people have been allowed out for no more than an hour or two each day to find what food they can.

The tiny shop on the edge of the curfew area sells eggs, *duqah* (brown flour and pepper) and a few poor quality vegetables. The shopkeeper explains that the people in the camp

no longer have money to pay him and are living on credit.

An old man says he has "escaped" from the camp because he cannot find enough food there to live on. People are boiling root vegetables with flour and water in order to stay alive, he says.

A woman brings her young son to show the bruise she says is where an Israeli soldier beat him after bursting into their home. Another mother points to the scars on her son's head. "He is deaf and dumb and when he did not answer their questions they beat him," she wails.

Two armed personnel carriers rumbled past and soon there is a patrol. This is a closed military area, "Go away," the officer orders. "Get out." He rightly sees that the presence of journalists is starting a demonstration.

At the UN Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa) headquarters, the daily reports from the camps are collated. Each day a truck with

emergency rations for 35,000 children under 10 waits at every camp entrance for permission to go in. Some days they are allowed in and some not.

Yesterday two of the camps in the middle of the Strip, El Bureij and Nuseirat, received no supplies and they are already without water. Israeli military sources say the

Copenhagen (Reuters) — The Danish Peace Foundation said yesterday it had awarded its 1988 peace prize, worth 100,000 crowns (£8,500), to Mordechai Vanunu, who gave details of alleged A-bomb production by Israel to *The Sunday Times*. Israel has accused him of spying.

Camps have been among the most troublesome to bring under control. Dr Samir Badri, the Unrwa medical administrator, received a report from Nuseirat that an ambulance was needed to bring in beaten children.

"I describe it as brutality," he says

angrily. "It is trying to kill somebody by beating instead of shooting."

He describes seeing a pregnant woman beaten in Rafah camp four days before. "She was in labour and went out in the curfew to our clinic and they beat her."

"She was screaming with labour pains and they would not believe her until an Israeli doctor said she would give birth in 30 minutes."

Dr Badri said camp clinics were finding increasing difficulty in operating under curfew. Each doctor sees 120 patients a day but now can only work for an hour. Diabetics are running out of insulin and heart patients are beginning to miss their drugs.

"We have put in a real effort to improve health in the camps, but now we have taken many steps backwards," he said. "Most important of all is the psychological effect of all this."

"The panic we have seen when the

teargas explodes, the pregnant women afraid of giving birth to abnormal children. The violence causes violence. When the children are treated in a certain way they react in the same way. I hope there is a solution to all this before the hatred develops in them any more."

JERUSALEM: Mr Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister, said yesterday he would try to force early elections over a peace conference on the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip (Reuters reports).

Elections are scheduled for November, but he said they could take place within three months if endorsed by Parliament.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, immediately declared his opposition to the idea. He said: "At this time, when we are under attack, it would not be good for the people of Israel to enter into an elections war. It will weaken our position in the eyes of the Arabs."

Kabul plays down Soviet allies at big army parade

From Christopher Walker, Kabul

Soviet-built MiG fighters screamed low over Kabul yesterday and columns of heavy armour rumbled noisily as the Kremlin-backed Afghan

regime staged one of the biggest shows of military might since the capital. The display was for a victory parade to mark last month's breaking of the Khost siege.

It took place as the pace of diplomacy surrounding the Afghan war accelerated, with Secretary of State George Shultz, the United Nations negotiator, due to begin a shuttle between here and Pakistan in a few days, before next month's crucial resumption of the Geneva peace talks.

More than 2,000 men took part in the march past. President Najibullah — whose nervous bodyguards betrayed the tenuousness of his own security — as well as helicopter gunships, mobile Katyusha rocket launchers, T-54 tanks and even a squad of machine-guns mounted inconspicuously on the sidescars of antiquated motorcycles.

Western observers claimed that the purpose of the parade, staged in dazzling sunshine in front of the city's largest mosque, was to increase the impression at home and abroad that the Government is capable of surviving on its own in the event of a Soviet withdrawal.

Moscow forces were conspicuous by their absence, and little mention was made of the key role they played in the battle for Khost. Soviet officials were watching under hastily erected canvas awnings, but it was noticeable that most of the applause for the Afghan heroes came from tape-recordings played on crackly loudspeakers.

The breaking of the siege on December 30 is being used as a key propaganda instrument by the Communist regime to try to discredit the guerrillas and to boost Afghan morale and increase confidence in its armed forces, notorious for poor discipline, defections and incompetence.

To support the Government's claims that it has won a famous victory after a siege which lasted intermittently for nearly nine years, the first group of Western journalists permitted to fly into Khost

has arrived here from Moscow. We are due to land in the recently besieged city under cover of darkness in the early hours of today.

The timing of the fierce battle for the garrison town close to the Pakistan border surprised many military experts, some of whom saw it as an expression of Soviet determination not to leave the impression that Moscow's clients had been routed.

Sources who have recently visited the area with the rebels say that the Soviet-backed grip on the town remains fragile.

But President Najibullah displayed no such doubts yesterday as the cream of the Afghan Army (which has slumped in size by 50 per cent since 1979 because of defections) went through its paces to the accompaniment of an out-of-tune band which added an atmosphere of Ruritanian farce to the occasion.

Many of the steel-helmeted soldiers who marched past the dais looked remarkably young, and few were able to display the formidable military professionalism seen from the mud-spattered Soviet vehicles patrolling Kabul.

While makeshift patriotic songs of the ruling People's Democratic Party blared from the loudspeakers, more than 100 men involved in the fighting to open the 30-mile road from Gardez to Khost were presented with medals.

President Najibullah attempted to portray a picture of returning normality. He said that the rebels surrounding Khost had refused to negotiate and that they had assassinated nine local leaders.

No Afghan or Soviet casualty figures were available, but hospital reports indicate that they were high.

The President said that 20,000 tonnes of food and other supplies had now been provided for the 45,000 residents of the town, whose location puts it under constant guerrilla threat.

As a result, the price of salt had fallen 10 times and that of fuel by 30 times its cost during the siege. He pledged that the city would now be kept open, and ordered a minute's silence for those killed trying to break the rebel stronghold.

British doctor's patient back in class



Bilal, left, in his wheelchair, attending lessons at a school in the Palestinian refugee camp at Bourj al-Barajneh, near Beirut. Bilal, a patient of the British surgeon Dr Pauline Cutting, returned to the camp last month after spending six months in London, where he had an operation on his severed spinal cord.

The Republican battle in Iowa

Acrimony increases as Dole widens his lead over Bush

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Senator Robert Dole, locked in an increasingly acrimonious struggle with Vice-President George Bush for the Republican presidential nomination, has increased his lead over Mr Bush in Iowa, where he vitally needs victory to challenge his rival's overall 2:1 lead in the country.

The latest poll by the *Des Moines Register* suggested that Senator Dole would gain 41 per cent of the Republican caucus vote compared with 26 per cent for Mr Bush — a substantially wider margin than the 4-point lead Mr Dole held a month ago.

The Rev Pat Robertson came third with 11 per cent, followed by Congressman Jack Kemp, former Governor Pete Du Pont and General Alexander Haig, who was bottom of the list with only one per cent.

Mr Bush has been hurt by persistent questioning over his role in the Iran-Contra affair. A *Time* magazine survey published yesterday found that Iowa Republicans, unlike those in New Hampshire, show only lukewarm support

for President Reagan, and half the voters want the next President to adopt different policies from the Reagan Administration. This, too, hurts Mr Bush.

In challenging Mr Dole to disclose his tax returns, Mr Bush yesterday released 14 years of his own forms, showing that his taxes have ranged from three to 41 per cent of his annual income.

On Saturday Mr Dole released tax returns dating back to 1966 and details from his wife's trust fund, after a week of questions about the trust's dealing with Mr Dole's political associates.

Mr Dole, making much of Iowa's rural upbringing in neighbouring Kansas, has sought to contrast his background in a small town during the Depression with that of Mr Bush, the scion of a wealthy Connecticut family. Mr Bush has tried to show that in fact Mr and Mrs Dole are now extremely wealthy.

The inverse class-warfare campaign has become bitter and, to many commentators, increasingly ridiculous. How-

ever the imbrolio over Mrs Dole's trust has hurt Mr Dole, especially in the South.

Meanwhile, Mr Du Pont has virtually abandoned his attempt to win delegates in the South, by removing his name from the Texas ballot at the weekend. He took the step of renouncing any chance to capture the 110 delegates from the state because of forged signatures that turned up on his primary petitions.

Governor's choice: Petitions for the recall of Governor Evan Mecham of Arizona were submitted to the state capitol yesterday, giving the embattled Republican governor the choice of resigning or facing a rare recall election in May that is certain to throw him out of office.

Governor Mecham faces arraignment this week on fraud and perjury charges.

Last Friday a special counsel, Mr William French, told the Arizona Legislature that the Governor was impeachable, citing evidence that he concealed a \$350,000 campaign loan, illegally borrowed \$80,000 in state funds

Butcher of Balkans dies in jail

Belgrade (AP) — Andrija Artukovic, a convicted war criminal and former Minister of Internal Affairs in the Nazi puppet state of Croatia during the Second World War, died in jail on Saturday, the official Tanjug news agency reported yesterday.

Artukovic, aged 88, was sentenced to execution by firing squad after being convicted of war crimes in a month-long trial in May 1986. The sentence was never carried out because he was ill and the execution was postponed.

Known as the "Butcher of the Balkans," Artukovic was extradited from the United States in February 1986 and put on trial in the Croatian capital of Zagreb two months later.

Tanjug said he died in the hospital at Zagreb prison but did not give the direct cause of death.

He had been suffering from general and cerebral sclerosis and senility, according to his lawyer and the Tanjug report.

The president of Zagreb's district court had ruled that his body should be buried

unmarked at an unspecified location, it said.

Born on November 29, 1899 in Croatia, Artukovic became Interior Minister and security chief in the republic during part of the Second World War.

He was pronounced a war criminal in 1946. But he had already fled from Yugoslavia on May 5, 1945, initially spending time in Ireland, where his son, Zedostar, was born to him and his Austrian-born wife, Anna.

He entered the United States in July 1948 and remained there until his February 1986 extradition settled a 30-year legal battle between Yugoslavia and the United States.

He had spent most of his time in the United States in California, where his son still lives.

A five-man tribunal in Zagreb found him guilty of ordering the slaughter of thousands of prisoners in the war.

Artukovic, arriving by stretcher on extradition to Zagreb in 1986.

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Pope sets strict terms for Moscow visit

From Roger Boyes
Rome

The Pope has set out in remarkably strong and undiplomatic terms his conditions for visiting the Soviet Union, and he declared that he was still waiting for an invitation from Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

"This should be a real visit in reply to a real invitation," he said during an impromptu press conference on Sunday night. "This invitation has not arrived."

Mr Gorbachev is expected to visit Rome soon — shortly before Easter according to some sources — and the Vatican has been preparing an agenda for the audience. Theoretically, Mr Gorbachev could visit the Italian Government without crossing the open frontier into the Vatican, but this would be almost unprecedented and the Pope's advisors believe the audience to be a certainty.

When Mr Gorbachev comes, proto-

col would require him to offer an invitation to the Soviet Union. But what kind of invitation? "The gesture would have to be performed in a truthful, open way," the Pope said in his first visit to Italy's Foreign Press Club.

"In the Soviet Union there live a part of the Catholic faithful — in Lithuania, Latvia, in Byelorussia, Kazakhstan and the Ukraine — who desire to see their Pope."

In other words, the Pope is not interested in a simple visit to Moscow as head of state, but only in a pastoral, preaching mission as he conducted three times in Poland.

By stating his preferences so openly he has put Mr Gorbachev on the spot. The Soviet intention had probably been to invite the Pope to Moscow to celebrate the 1,000th anniversary of the Russian Orthodox church. Now the Russians must either offer more, or nothing at all.

Moscow will be further discomfited by the mention of Kazakhstan, which

is still smarting from riots last year. In all the informal soundings about the Soviet trip, the idea of the Pope visiting Kazakhstan, Catholics had not occurred to anybody.

The original aim was for the Pope to make a Soviet trip this year, but this seems improbable and the Russian Orthodox church appears lukewarm about the Pope stealing the limelight of their millennium.

The Pope was rather scathing about the way the Russian Orthodox church has been treating Ukrainian Catholics. The Catholics there, he said, had been forced underground and their situation was "difficult though not hopeless."

The Ukrainian Catholic church, celebrating Eastern rites, should be legalized but the Russian Orthodox church showed no interest in this, he declared, making few concessions to his future hosts.

The Pope devoted most of his comments to the prospects of the Soviet trip and to the Middle East.

But he was also in a jocular mood, answering the heavy-handed humour characteristic of foreign correspondents throughout the world with his own, even more laconic wit.

This was the 75th anniversary of the Foreign Press Association and so one question was about the retirement age for Pops. Priests usually had to offer their resignation at the age of 75. "Does a pension scheme exist for Pops," he was asked. "We shall see. We shall have to find a superior in order to submit the request," he said.

Before visiting the Foreign Press Association on Sunday night, the Pope called on a parish priest, Monsignor Piero Pintos. Although this was a courtesy visit it prompted excited speculation in Italy that the late Princess Grace of Monaco may have come a step closer to beatification.

Monsignor Pintos has been the most vociferous lobbyist for her beatification, describing her as an exemplary mother, woman and spouse.

Frenchman held for Japan's crime of century

From Philip Jacobson
Paris

A notorious French gangster suspected of involvement in Japan's biggest armed robbery was yesterday counting the cost of over-confidence, after being arrested in a Paris suburb on his way to renew his passport.

According to police sources here, Nordine Tifra, aged 27, who is also wanted in connection with the theft in France of

paintings by famous French artists for Japanese collectors, was under surveillance before being arrested on Friday.

The hold-up in which Tifra allegedly participated in November 1986, took place in central Tokyo. In less than three minutes four armed men had removed 333 million yen (£1.4 million) of the Mitsubishi Bank's cash from a hijacked armoured car. The gang was on a plane to Singapore almost before the

police had totted up the take from Japan's "crime of the century".

Tifra's name soon came up on police computers. Not only was he a renowned hold-up specialist, but he and the other three French suspects had done time in the same French prison, as a celebrated Japanese criminal, Shinichi Fujikuma, then serving a sentence for drug offences. Fujikuma is now in jail in Japan.

Tifra was also a prime suspect in the highly professional theft of five Corot works from a provincial gallery and of a number of even more valuable masterpieces, including Monet's *Soleil Levant*, from the Marmottan museum in Paris.

Last month the head of the Interior Ministry's department dealing with art thefts, Commissaire Mireille Balestrazzi, arrived in Tokyo to the sort of press coverage

normally reserved for film stars. Mme Balestrazzi is believed to have promised the Japanese full co-operation with their bank raid investigation. A week later she returned to France with four of the stolen Corots.

The Interior Ministry issued a statement saying Tifra was charged yesterday with armed robbery. He has denied taking part in the Japanese theft or even being in Japan at the time.

He told reporters there had been "irregularities" but said this happened in all countries. The Haitian people had not had a real democratic vote in 30 years and "can't be expected suddenly to reach the perfection of say, the British people," he added.

Meanwhile M Gregoire Eugene, a leading candidate re-

ported to have won the vote in some areas, said he might join the opposition.

M Eugene, aged 62, appeared in a radio interview to be covering his bets on the assumption that he was not going to win, according to diplomats here.

"I don't think the Haitian people would accept results which don't reflect their sentiments," M Eugene, a lawyer, said during the interview. "I am prepared to return to the opposition to take up the struggle, as I did under Duvalier," he said in a reference to the deposed dictator.

Radio stations reported that he had won the race in the northern town of Cap-Haitien.

Western diplomats estimated that between five and 10 per cent of Haitians voted in Port-au-Prince and 20 to 40 per cent in the provinces.

The outstanding question in Haiti yesterday was whether the military junta of General Henri Namphy and the new Government could win any degree of credibility for the elections.

The fact that the junta effectively organized the poll was the reason most Haitians boycotted it. Many say it takes the impoverished nation back 30 years to the start of the Duvalier dynasty. A European diplomat said the elections had not been democratic.

Iraqi exile lured to death in lobby of Khartoum Hilton

By Nicholas Beeston and Hazhir Teimourian

A prominent Iraqi dissident cleric murdered in Khartoum had been lured from London by a false invitation to attend an Islamic conference, his colleagues claimed yesterday.

An unidentified assassin shot dead Mr Mahdi al-Hakim, a Shia Muslim leader, in the crowded lobby of the Khartoum Hilton on Sunday evening, and wounded his nephew and aide, Mr Halim Abdul-Wahab. The gunman then fired shots in the air to frighten guests and hotel staff before fleeing in a car with diplomatic licence plates.

Mr Hakim was a prominent exiled political and religious leader closely associated with Iran and strongly opposed to the regime of President Hussein of Iraq. His younger brother, Mr Muhammad Baqir Hakim, is chairman of the Iranian-backed Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq in Tehran.

"There is absolutely no doubt he was murdered by Iraqi intelligence," a spokesman for Mr Hakim's office in London said yesterday. "He received a false invitation to go to Khartoum and was then murdered by an Iraqi agent."

Mr Hakim, aged 53, fled from Iraq in 1969 soon after the coming to power of the present Baathist government and had been living in London with his wife and four children for the past six years. Friends said that 17 members of his

family had been killed or executed in Iraq since 1983, but that Iraqi agents could not risk the diplomatic embarrassment of assassinating him in London.

Mr Hakim sought advice from the Metropolitan Police on security precautions in London but he usually travelled abroad about 20 times a year. His Friday sermons in support of Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini frequently attracted up to 500 Shia faithful to his mosque in west London.

His colleagues said that he was a target for Baghdad because he was currently engaged in a campaign to unite all Iraqi anti-government groups. "In the past six months he has been trying to



Mr Hakim: Seventeen of his relatives already killed.

unite the major opposition parties, including the Kurds, the Islamic groups and the Iraqi nationalist organizations," Mr Saad Jabr, the leader of Iraq's anti-government New Umma Party, said.

Headed that the assassination followed the recent killings of anti-government Iraqi students in Pakistan and the poisoning of several Kurdish activists, three of whom are being treated at a hospital in London.

Reports from Khartoum said that police had made little headway in their investigation, but the authorities admitted that they regarded the killing as "connected to Iraqi politics".

● **KHARTOUM:** The assassination will put serious strains on the delicate balancing act under which Sudan tries to maintain good relations with Islamic countries of all political shades (A Correspondent writes).

Sudan depends on economic and military assistance from many Arab states to keep afloat its economy - burdened by a \$7.3 billion debt - and to pursue the four-year-old civil war against the Sudan People's Liberation Army.

Sudan has bartered grain for oil from Iran in the past, but was more recently reported to have received weapons, including surface-to-air missiles, from Iraq.

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Political stalemate strains balance of power in Sudan

From Andrew Buckoche, Khartoum

Sudan has walked what many would consider a political tightrope in the past five months. To all intents and purposes, it has been governed without the benefit of a government.

The ruling coalition was dissolved in August, and no formally constituted administration has taken its place. Given the tensions in the country, this sidelining of democratic niceties makes relatively little difference.

Under a gentlemen's agreement between Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi and Mr Osman el-Mirghani, the leaders of the two biggest parties in the old coalition, Mr al-Mahdi remains as Prime Minister and the rest of the Cabinet continue in their duties.

Even for the 15 months that the coalition was supposedly intact, the parties involved could not agree on - let alone table or pass - any significant legislation. Charitable observers say this is because Sudan, as one of Africa's new and rare multi-party democracies, is struggling towards consensus politics.

More cynical voices say it is the result of a lack of political will among the northern Muslim majority to tackle the key problem - the civil war - compounded by political infighting based on personal ambition.

The four-year conflict in the south, where the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) is fighting for the repeal of sharia (Islamic laws) and greater autonomy for the predominantly African, Christian and animist south, costs \$1 million (£560,000) a day to a country whose entire export earnings would cover less than half the interest and repayments due on its \$13 billion external debt.

Sudan is barely kept afloat by aid from the West and conservative Arab states, nervous of any further rapprochement

between Sudan and Libya and other radical states.

Despite Mr al-Mahdi's often-declared intention of repealing or modifying sharia, the leaders of his New National Umma Party, based on the Muslim Ansar sect of which he is hereditary head, as well as those of Mr el-Mirghani's Democratic Unionist Party, are constantly looking over their shoulders at Dr Hassan Turabi and the National Islamic Front, the opposition fundamentalist party.

No northern politician is ready to be associated with actions that could be construed as anti-Muslim. But

● **There is a lack of will among the Muslim majority in the north to tackle the key problem of the civil war**

many northern Muslims are far from strict observers of the faith - alcohol is widely consumed at private parties - and the amputations and floggings prescribed by sharia have not been inflicted since President Nimeiry was deposed in 1985.

The streets of Khartoum give little hint of the civil war raging far to the south. They are refreshingly peaceful and free of uniforms compared with most African cities.

The Islamic Front only has a few seats in the Constituent Assembly, but is well supported among students and the Army and is well organized. The party, mindful of the downfall of President Nimeiry was precipitated by demonstrations over cuts in food subsidies sponsored by the International Monetary Fund, attempted to take advantage of the IMF-led devaluation and fuel price rises imposed on Mr al-Mahdi's administration last September.

Perhaps because the urban population is now more aware of the dire economic situation, demonstrations this time did not spread beyond the pro-Front students. But the party remains capable of promoting or taking advantage of public dissent.

Mr al-Mahdi has been in tentative contact with the SPLA, incurring the condemnation of both the Front and the Democratic Unionists, its old coalition partner.

But the seriousness of the secret talks in London last November and December can be gauged by the fact that they coincide with the SPLA's capture and subsequent loss of two villages on the Ethiopian border, Kurnuk and Gizen, farther north than it has ever operated.

When Mr al-Mahdi commented on the talks in early January, suggesting that the rebels were moderating their conditions for a ceasefire, the SPLA responded by denying that any ceasefire was likely and by announcing the capture of the small southern town of Kapoeta.

The constitutional conference that is supposed to follow a ceasefire, according to a provisional agreement between the Government and the SPLA, is seen as no nearer than it was when a senior minister said it would be convened in weeks. That was 14 months ago.

The talks certainly look much further away than when Mr al-Mahdi's elected Government came to power in April, 1986 - after the year of transitional military rule that followed President Nimeiry's fall - apparently firmly committed to negotiating a settlement with the SPLA.

Under the current political and military stalemate, the risk of an ambitious army officer taking matters into his own hands, as Colonel Gaafar Muhammad Nimeiry did in 1969, must remain great.

Begun quits Russia after 16-year fight

From Our Own Correspondent
Moscow

Israel Begun, the Jewish activist who was branded an agent of Israeli intelligence and a criminal by the Soviet media, left the Soviet Union yesterday for a new life in Israel, ending a 16-year struggle to leave his homeland.

The departure of Mr Begun, aged 55, who spent nine years in prison camps and internal exile because of his activities on behalf of Soviet Jews, leaves the movement in a leadership crisis.

He was flying to Israel via Bucharest with his family members - his wife Iva, aged 53, his mother-in-law, aged 79, and his son Boris and daughter-in-law Yana, both aged 23, and their two children aged five and one.

Unlike other emotionally-charged departures of refugees, few tears were shed for Mr Begun and his family as they struggled through customs at Sheremetyevo airport, Moscow.

The departure seemed strangely businesslike compared to others. Fewer than a dozen friends shook hands and exchanged hugs with Begun as they departed. The great flood of tears and sobbing, so common at other departures, was absent.

"I am sad about leaving our friends who are here, but I am happy to be leaving," Mr Begun told reporters at the airport.

He was granted an exit visa in September, but stayed on to ensure that his entire family would be allowed to leave as well.

Prior to his departure, Mr Begun said he was contemplating beginning legal proceedings in Moscow against the Soviet media for defamation.



Mr Begun, holding his granddaughter Dina, waves goodbye to friends at Moscow airport.

Setting Europe's arms priorities

From Richard Owen, Bonn

Shevardnadze offers more cuts

As moves towards a Nato summit in March gathered pace yesterday, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, declared that the Soviet Union was ready to negotiate conventional force reductions with the West.

But at a dinner in his honour in Bonn, he simultaneously called for the removal of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe. West German politicians on both right and left went to follow the INF Treaty removing medium and shorter range missiles with an agreement to reduce - or at least not to modernize - short-range missiles, the final tier in Nato's nuclear arsenal in Europe.

Outlining priorities on the second day of his three-day official visit, Mr Shevardnadze called for a ban on chemical weapons, but did not mention Russia's own chemical arsenal. He scorned Western allegations that Moscow was reluctant to discuss the conventional imbalance, saying that such allegations had been used before to throw doubt on Soviet good faith in nuclear arms negotiations.

Mr Thatcher last week became the first Western leader to call for such a summit before the next Gorbachev-Reagan encounter planned for the summer. She also has made it clear that the priority must be conventional reductions before any further nuclear reductions are considered.

At last night's banquet in Bonn, Gorbachev, however, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, recalled that at Reykjavik last June Nato had agreed to draw up a mandate for negotiations on the reduction of short-range nuclear weapons to "equal and verifiable levels". Such missiles, with a range of 300 miles or less, had "particular significance for us Germans", Herr Genscher said. He also called for conventional and chemical weapons talks, welcomed the prospect of a 50 per cent cut in strategic missiles, and urged Congress to ratify the INF Treaty.

Mr Shevardnadze said that tactical missiles, whether Soviet or American, were exclusively aimed at states "which are in the front line between the two military-political alliances". Removal of such weapons would be in the fundamental interests of all Europeans, he said.

The two ministers yesterday hailed the INF Treaty as a "historic event", and in talks marked by a remarkable atmosphere of mutual admiration agreed that the division of Europe had to be overcome.

Herr Genscher went out of his way, however, to assure West European opinion that growing bilateral Soviet-West German ties were "not directed against anyone". He referred to an interview given by President Mitterrand in which the French leader said that Bonn was entitled to play a "specific role" towards the East because of historical and geographical factors and that West Germany's place in the Western democratic system was not in doubt.

Mr Shevardnadze will hold talks today with Chancellor Helmut Kohl about a summit later in the year between Herr Kohl and Mr Gorbachev. Mr Shevardnadze is the first Soviet Foreign Minister to visit Bonn for five years.

Mitterrand hails defence partnership

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

President Mitterrand of France, in his first interview with a West German paper for six years, called yesterday for strengthened Franco-German military co-operation as a contribution to European defence.

He also said in *Die Welt* that Anglo-French nuclear collaboration would strengthen Western security, but emphasized that the Franco-German brigade was a limited conventional force, and ruled out a joint European atomic option.

Mitterrand said that the French force of *force de frappe*, like the British deterrent, "can only serve precise national interests". Inclusion of British and French missiles in any future arms talks could be considered

only when the superpowers had concluded their own nuclear negotiations.

The President and Chancellor Kohl of West Germany are to meet at the Elysee Palace on Friday to mark the 25th anniversary of the Franco-German treaty, the foundation of their postwar reconciliation and a keystone in building a united Europe.

The symbolic Paris summit comes as Anglo-German ties are under strain. Herr Kohl last week accused Mrs Thatcher of assuming - like Lord Palmerston - that Britain was "privileged on account of history".

President Mitterrand said in his interview that Bonn was fully entitled to "look east". He emphasized the German

role in Europe and the shared interests of France and West Germany from the time of de Gaulle and Adenauer.

But Mitterrand placed the emphasis firmly on defence, noting that because of the growing harmonization of West German and French political, diplomatic and economic policies, defence was "very much on the agenda of the forthcoming anniversary".

Asked about fears that West Germany was tempted by the concept of a neutral Central Europe, with the aim of German reunification, Mitterrand said it was natural that West Germany should look east because of its geography.

In a phrase warmly welcomed by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German

Foreign Minister, he observed: "When West Germany is fully committed to the building of Europe, as I believe it is, why should it not play a specific role in accordance with its historical reality? These concerns are not to be confused with neutralism. We belong to the same alliance, the same Europe, have the same democratic system and, I hope, the same future."

Mitterrand said he hoped that the postwar division of Europe could be overcome. But he did not believe that the overwhelming Soviet conventional threat to West Germany, following the removal of European-based missiles under the INF Treaty between the superpowers, would push Bonn towards neutralism.

Ershad to postpone poll until March

Dhaka - President Ershad of Bangladesh postponed the general election from February 28 to March 3 as the opposition stepped up campaigns for a boycott of the poll (Ahmed Fazl writes).

The election commission set a new deadline of Saturday for nomination papers to be returned, but gave no reason for the changes.

However, official sources said that the move was intended to avoid a confrontation with the two key opposition alliances which have called a general strike tomorrow and Thursday in an attempt to prevent prospective candidates from submitting nomination papers.

"It is also meant to give the opposition a scope to reconsider their stand."

Sheikha Hasina Wazed, chief of the Awami League, which dominates an eight-party alliance, said her boycott campaign would continue.

US defence official quits

Washington - Mr Fred Ikle, the Defence Department's third-ranking official, has submitted his resignation to President Reagan and plans to leave his post next month (Christopher Thomas writes).

"I've been in this job for seven years and it's time to look to the future," Mr Ikle said. He denied that his departure was connected with the appointment of Mr Frank Carlucci as Defence Secretary.

Conté change

Conakry (Reuter) - President Conté of Guinea dropped his deputy and the defence and interior ministers in a Cabinet reshuffle which followed reports of discontent in the Army and food riots in the West African state.

Aeroflot crash

Moscow (Reuter) - Eleven people were killed when an Aeroflot airliner crashed while landing at Krasnovodsk, near the Iranian border in Soviet Turkmeniya, *Izvestia* reported.

Refugee fear

Hong Kong (Reuter) - The Hong Kong Government gave a warning that the number of boat people arriving here from Vietnam had risen sharply since last May and many more were expected in 1988.

Spies hanged

Damascus (Reuter) - Three Syrians convicted of spying for Israel were hanged in a Damascus central square.

Storm deaths

New York (AP) - An intense storm blamed for seven deaths hit southern California and spread snow across the south-west US.

Priest jailed

Orense (Reuter) - A Spanish priest who shot a mourner in the foot at a funeral gathering has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment in the psychiatric wing of a Madrid jail.

Swedes strike

Stockholm - Swedish manufacturing industry was hit by a strike of 50,000 white-collar workers demanding an improvement on a 0.9 per cent pay-rise offered by the employers' organization.

China visit

Peking (AFP) - Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, Norway's Prime Minister, has begun a three-day visit to China.

Killer bolts

Nairobi (AP) - Lightning bolts in western Kenya killed eight people.

Botha faces crisis on Hendrickse revolt

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

President Botha of South Africa is facing a constitutional crisis because of the growing militancy of a former Coloured (mixed-race) Cabinet minister, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, who was once pilloried as little more than a lackey of the Government.

Mr Hendrickse, an ordained minister in the Congregational Church, is leader of the Labour Party, the majority party in the House of Representatives, the Coloured chamber of South Africa's tricameral Parliament.

The country's five million whites, 2.9 million Coloureds and 900,000 Indians are represented on a proportional basis in the Parliament, which was set up by Pretoria in 1984 and has a House of Assembly for whites and a House of Delegates for Indians.

The three houses are elected on segregated voters' rolls. Formally, decision-taking is by consensus, but the system is rigged to give the white chamber the final say on almost all matters of importance. South Africa's 25 million blacks are unrepresented.

Over the past year Mr Hendrickse has tried to defend his participation in the Parliament, which is shunned by most politically active Coloureds and Indians, by using the limited power it gives him to press for a much faster dismantling of apartheid.

The latest turn in the increasingly

Johannesburg - Police said yesterday that seven more blacks were killed in overnight unrest in black townships around Pietermaritzburg, Natal (Michael Hornsby writes). The deaths included that of a two-year-old boy. Forty-two people have died in black feuding in the area this year.

hostile relationship between Mr Botha and the troublesome cleric has come with Mr Hendrickse's attempt to dismiss a fellow Labour Party member, Mr Carter Ebrahim, from his position as Minister of Education and Culture in the Council of Ministers of the House of Representatives.

Mr Ebrahim was one of the few delegates at the Labour Party's annual national congress at the end of last month who did not support Mr Hendrickse in making the abolition of segregated residential areas a precondition for the party's agreement to postpone general elections.

Elections to all three houses are constitutionally required before the end of next year, barely two years after last May's elections to the white House of Assembly. Mr Botha wants to postpone the elections until 1992, but cannot amend the Constitution without the support of all three chambers.

Mr Ebrahim has refused to be sacked, however, arguing, pedantically but correctly, that he was appointed by

Mr Botha, and that only the President can remove him. Mr Hendrickse has now put the ball in Mr Botha's court by asking him to do just that.

Formally, Mr Botha, as both an executive and ceremonial President, appoints not only all members of the national Cabinet but also the members of the subordinate white, Coloured and Indian Councils of Ministers which handle health, education and other "own affairs" of their respective race groups.

Will Mr Botha be prepared to sacrifice Mr Ebrahim, who took his side against Mr Hendrickse in the debate over an election postponement? If Mr Botha refuses Mr Hendrickse's request he would, according to most legal opinion, be in breach of the spirit of the Constitution at the very least.

Mr Hendrickse may be getting his own back for the smarming humiliation he suffered early last year when he went for an unlawful swim off a whites-only beach in Port Elizabeth and was forced by Mr Botha to make a public apology as the price for retaining his seat in the Cabinet as a Minister without Portfolio.

He lost that position anyway last August, after Mr Botha accused him of agreeing to an election postponement in the privacy of a Cabinet meeting and then changing his mind in public later.

In a further act of defiance, Mr Hendrickse is leading a move to boycott festivities to be held next month at Mossel Bay on the Cape's south coast to mark the 500th anniversary of the rounding of the Cape of Good Hope by the Portuguese navigator, Bartholomew Diaz.

Mr Botha, and other government and parliamentary officials, are due to be on hand to greet a replica of Diaz's sailing ship when it arrives from Lisbon. The whites-only Mossel Bay beach is to be opened to all races for the festival but closed to blacks again afterwards.



Mr Hendrickse: Putting pressure on President to sack a fellow minister.

Return of the guerrilla guru tests Italy's will to forgive

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Franco Piperno's dogs, a Doberman and a German Shepherd, left the aircraft first; then came his gaunt Polish girlfriend. Finally, the scholarly pipe-smoking mastermind of one of Italy's most lethal urban guerrilla groups emerged to be handcuffed by the police.

Piperno, symbol of the 1968 riots that curdled into the kidnappings and shootings of the 1970s, has returned to Italy after eight years of exile in Canada. He will be the crucial test of Italy's determination to bring its subversives, once the most active and destructive in Europe, back into the fold.

Yesterday the Italian Parliament began discussions as to whether an amnesty should be introduced for the Red Brigades and other urban guerrilla groups. Recently Senator Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, a leading Christian Democrat and former Interior Minister, visited two founding members of the Red Brigades, Renato Curcio and Mario Moretti, in their cells. About 200 to 300

Red Brigades sympathizers - some of them in hiding in France - are waiting for a decision.

Piperno was the head of Proletarian Power and of the Autonomia movement which, along with the Red Brigades, tried to infiltrate and then radicalize the factories of northern Italy. When that did not produce a revolution, they started to knock out editors, industrialists and policemen and eventually to kidnap and assassinate.

In April, 1979, the leaders of Autonomia were arrested, but Piperno slipped out of the country and took refuge in Paris and later in Canada. He was accused of being one of the instigators of the kidnapping and killing of Aldo Moro, the Italian Prime Minister.

The talk is now of an amnesty for those still in hiding or in exile. Although there are a few sporadic attacks by the successors to the Red Brigades, the authorities seem justified in claiming that the back of Italian subversion has been broken.

Piperno was sentenced to 10 years' jail, but eight years have passed since then. He will now remain in Rome's high-security prison until an appeal hearing is staged, probably in two months. That will coincide with the Moro anniversary and may ensure his freedom. "Times have changed," he said before being driven away from the airport. "I hope the judges will reduce or annul the sentence."

● **Request rejected:** A court trying three Palestinians over the 1985 Rome airport massacre yesterday rejected a request aimed at investigating the role of Israeli security forces (AP reports from Rome). Judge Filippo Antonioni said the jury ruled that the request was beyond the mandate of the court.

On Friday a lawyer representing survivors seeking civil damages in the case had requested that the court press the Italian Government for details about the use of foreign police forces as part of security at Leonardo da Vinci airport.

Victory hard to achieve for Aquino's candidates

From Humphrey Hawksley, Manila

The first unofficial results in the Philippines local elections began coming in late last night, with President Aquino's candidates not finding victory as easy as they expected, and in one or two cases trailing behind other candidates.

Nevertheless, Mrs Aquino hailed the holding of the elections, the first for 16 years, as a defeat for left-wing and right-wing extremists.

"The results of today's election prove that once again the Filipino people have demonstrated their faith in the democratic process," she said.

"There were acts of violence (but they were) a substantial reduction from the blood-letting of previous elections. The extreme left and the extreme right appear to have lost their capability to terrorize the electorate."

No clear trend was emerging, particularly as to the success of candidates hand-picked by Mrs Aquino, but evidence of voting frauds could lead to a rise in tension. Although polling, generally, took place peacefully, there were violent incidents reported from several areas.

One of the worst attacks — the shooting dead of Mr Roy Padilla, the pro-administration candidate for governor in the south-eastern province of Camarines Sur — happened only hours before the poll opened.

A campaign worker was shot dead on the central island of Negros when he tried to prevent armed men from stealing ballot boxes, and military officials said that some polling booths were closed because of threats by Communist guerrillas.

The military also reported a threat from the right. Rebel soldiers, loyal to former Presi-

dent Ferdinand Marcos, were said to have made plans to disrupt polling.

In the first indications of election fraud, a number of voters were arrested after they were found to be carrying false identity cards. Candidates were accused of bribing them between polling stations so that they could vote several times. Election officials also said they found some boxes already stuffed with ballot papers when polling began.

But compared to the last five local elections in 1971, voting was brisk and smooth, although officials warned that, once results became known, tension could rise.

An indication of this came from a candidate for the governorship of the far northern province of Cagayan. Colonel Rudi Aguinaldo, who resigned his commission to stand for office, said that, if he lost, it would mean that there had been cheating.

If an official from the Commission of Elections did anything foolish, "he will be the first to leave the Earth. We have 300 firearms right here. At a given signal we will chop off the heads of anybody who is foolish," said Colonel Aguinaldo, who is a staunch supporter of the organizers of the coup last August which nearly toppled the Government.

Personalities such as Colonel Aguinaldo have dominated this election more than issues, and if there has been an issue it is that of the dynastic families which rule many towns and provinces, often by force with their own private armies.

President Aquino has been accused of supporting several of these families in an attempt to retain the mass support which swept her into office two years ago.

Botany Bay fleet conjures up the past

From Keith Dalton
Sydney

Nine sailing ships, rolling in heavy seas and weaving through a 600-strong welcome flotilla of small craft, sailed into Botany Bay yesterday at the end of an eight-month voyage recreating that of the first convict fleet to establish a penal colony in Australia.

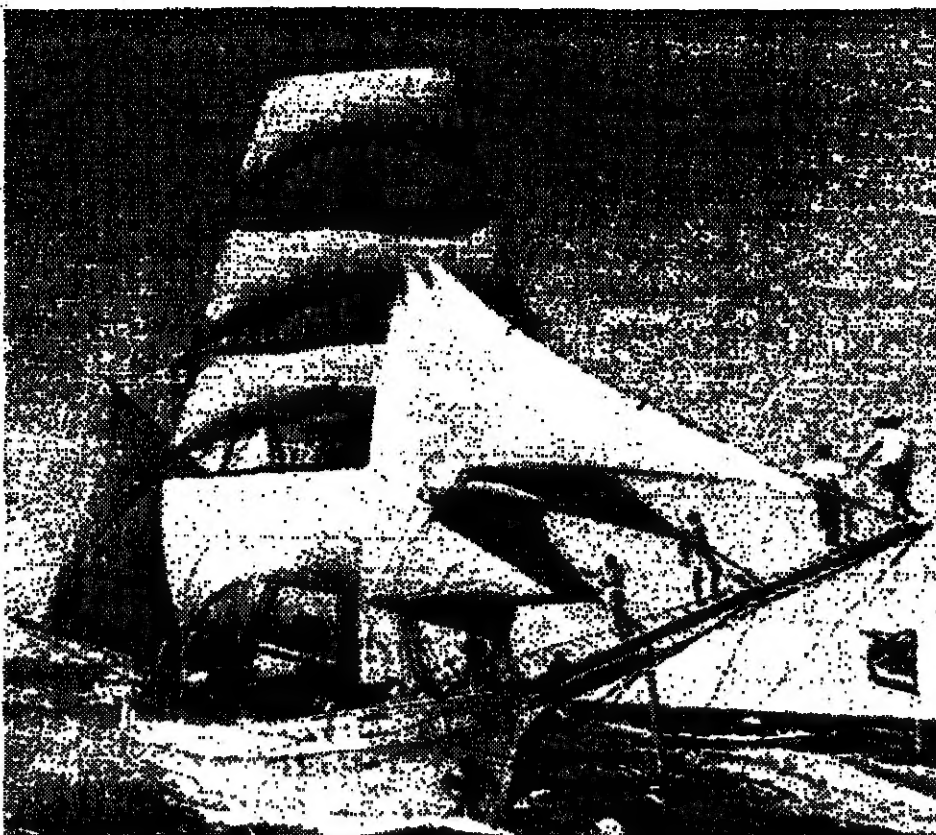
The chants and protest speeches of hundreds of Aboriginal demonstrators were drowned by the cheers of tens of thousands of spectators who gathered on the shore to witness the ships' arrival.

It was at Botany Bay, just south of Sydney, that Captain Arthur Phillip — later to become Australia's pioneering governor — set foot on Australian soil and raised the Union Flag on January 18, 1788.

On that day 200 years ago, native Aborigines brandished spears and shouted "in a menacing tone" from the shore. But they were quickly won over by presents of beads and a mirror and in return showed the landing party a freshwater stream near by.

"This is where the invasion began 200 years ago," an Aboriginal activist, Mr Tiga Bales, told supporters who drew wreaths into the ocean. "We lay wreaths in memory of our people who died 200 years ago. This is where the invasion began and this service is in memory of those people who died and continue to die."

Behind him Aboriginal flags fluttered at half-mast. As



The Sorensen, flagship of the fleet which re-enacted the first voyage in 1788 to Australia from England, entering Botany Bay, near Sydney, yesterday after an eight-month voyage.

promised, the protest was non-violent, although some spectators made calls at the Aborigines and their white supporters, many dressed in black to mourn what they said were two centuries of oppression and neglect.

"They haven't got the sensitivity to understand the

provocative nature of this exercise," said the Aboriginal leader, Mr Gary Foley.

But local authorities, bowing to Aboriginal objections, cancelled plans to recreate the landing of Captain Phillip, who stayed only eight days at Botany Bay before moving to Port Jackson, where Sydney's

first foundations were laid on January 26. The modern-day adventurers' arrival, greeted by a naval gunfire salute and a fireworks display, symbolized the start of year-long bicentennial celebrations. Ships from seven countries joined the voyage which began from Portsmouth in May.

Pravda solves Gagarin puzzle

From A Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet Union has finally ended the mystery surrounding the plane crash that killed Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space.

After 20 years of silence Pravda yesterday admitted that faulty information from a military control tower and the unexpected slipstream from another jet were to blame for the crash that killed Gagarin and his co-pilot, Vladimir Seryogin, on March 27, 1968.

Pravda said Gagarin's jet was forced into a dive by the "jetwash" from another aircraft whose pilot never saw his plane nor, apparently, knew it was in the area. Gagarin might have lived if he had been given correct information by a military control tower near Moscow.

The article, based on the findings of a government commission and original research, was written by Professor Sergei Belotserkovsky, a noted scientist and engineer. He said sabotage or mechanical faults on Gagarin's aircraft could be ruled out.

Gagarin and Seryogin were coming in to land from 13,000 ft and were between two layers of cloud with no visibility of the horizon. They had been told by the control tower the height of the lower cloud was 2,700 ft when, in fact, it was only 1,800 ft. As they were making their

approach a Mig 21 jet, much larger than Gagarin's Mig 15, passed a few hundred feet in front of Gagarin's plane.

"Gagarin's jet was hit by a jetwash and began to dive. The pilots mistakenly considered that they had a sufficient reserve of height to pull out of the dive."

"They came out of the clouds at 1,800 ft, diving at a 70 to 90-degree angle. They could not parachute. The crew's actions were quite correct but they lacked only two seconds or 275 ft to pull out of the dive," Pravda said.

Full information about the circumstances and causes of the crash, during a routine training flight, has never been made public before, leading to speculation that a cover-up had taken place.

The speculation ranged from faulty equipment to rumours that Gagarin might have been drunk during the flight, or even poisoned. One rumour still believed by many Russians is that his plane was sabotaged.

In March, 1987, Pravda reported the partial findings of the government commission assigned to investigate the crash, but it left the cause "unexplained". But the publication of yesterday's account in Pravda, the Communist Party newspaper, gives it an official air of explanation.

Peking barred for Chiang funeral

From Robert Grievs, Taipei

Taiwan's Government has set January 30 as the date for the state funeral of the late President, Mr Chiang Ching-kuo.

Mr Yu-ming Shaw, the Government's chief spokesman, said the Government's funeral committee, made up of 21 Taiwanese politicians and community leaders, had selected Tou Liao, a country estate in Taoyuan County, as Mr Chiang's "temporary resting place".

Tou Liao is less than two miles from the Tzuhsu estate which is the "temporary resting place" of Mr Chiang's father, Chiang Kai-shek.

The Nationalist Government on Taiwan calls the burial site "temporary" because in theory the bodies will be moved to mainland China once the Nationalists "retake" it. Mr Shaw said Mr Chiang's body would be moved from the Veterans General Hospital in the Taipei suburb of Shihpai to lay in state at the Martyrs' Shrine in Tachih.

Mr Shaw rejected any suggestion that Peking could send an envoy to the funeral. "No matter what they (Peking) say, we stand firm on our policy of no contact, no negotiations and no compromise," he said.

Meanwhile, an internal poll of the 31 members of the policy-making Central Standing Committee of the Kuomintang, or Nationalist Party, shows that they "overwhelmingly" favour the appointment of President Lee Teng-hui as the new chairman of the party.

President Lee is not expected to be appointed party chairman officially until the 13th Nationalist Party congress convenes on July 7.

The party's General Secretary, Mr Lee Huan, said at the weekend that, despite Mr Chiang's death, efforts to introduce new legislation that would allow the appointment of more native Taiwanese delegates to the 300-member Legislative Yuan, Taiwan's rule-making body, and the 1,200-member National Assembly, the island's parliament, would go ahead.

● Punishment lifted: The Interior Ministry said yesterday that the Government would no longer punish Taiwan people who visited China illegally (Reuters reports from Taipei).

Taipei last November eased a 38-year ban on travel to the Chinese mainland, but said only those with relatives there could go.

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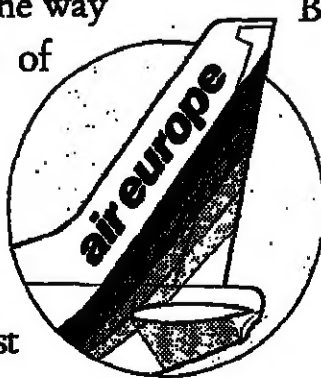
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KING'S CROSS UNDERGROUND FIRE INVESTIGATION

The formal investigation into the King's Cross Underground Fire will be held before Mr. Desmond Fennell OBE QC and will begin on Monday, 1 February 1988 at 10.30 a.m. in Westminster Central Hall, Storey's Gate, London SW1H 9NU.

A second one day preliminary meeting devoted to technical matters concerning the King's Cross Underground Fire, will be held before Mr. Desmond Fennell OBE QC, at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 25 January 1988 in Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1.

Both meetings will be open to the public. Any enquiries should be made to Mr. Fennell's office on 01-212 6078/6056/6066.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

All the President's secrets



In 1942 the Germans waged a brutal campaign against the Yugoslav partisans. Kurt Waldheim (left) was there — but, asks

Tom Bower, what did he do and why was he decorated? He says he was just an interpreter. His accusers say he played an intelligence gathering role

For most people mass deportations and concentration camps which have dominated the image of the Third Reich were associated with the German destruction of European Jewry. Over the past 40 years the courts have punished anyone proved to be directly involved in the machine which rounded up and transported Jews to the extermination camps.

Invariably, though, those who sat behind desks, pulling the strings, have been excused prosecution on the grounds that there was no proof of "command ability".

Kurt Waldheim, President of Austria, stands accused of being in the chain of command which directed the deportation of Greek Jews to Auschwitz and Italian soldiers to slave labour in Germany. Waldheim denies those charges and blames the SS.

Wehrmacht officers successfully convinced Allied investigators in 1945 that not only were all the Nazis' crimes committed by the SS but that the army had steadfastly refused as a point of honour to co-operate with the mass murders. Those defences are now known to be resoundingly untrue. Waldheim now acknowledges that he was near Salonika and aware of the round-up and deportations from Greece.

In a secret report dated September 22 1943, initiated by Waldheim, he records a briefing for the forcible transportation of thousands of Italian soldiers from Greece to German labour camps following Italy's surrender to the Allies. Waldheim was clearly involved with the operation. Yet in a letter to Robert Rhodes James, the Cambridge MP, he described his role as "rounding up information for the repatriation of Italian troops in Greece to their homeland and thereby to liberty".

Earlier, between July 19 and August 21, 1943, Kurt Waldheim kept the "war diary" for Army Group E in the Balkans. His name appears on the diary's cover. Among the entries on August 7 is the transmission to the 1st Jaeger Division of Hitler's order that "bandits captured in battle are to be shot". Bandit suspects were to be arrested and deported for forced labour.

Like most of the Axis armies in the Balkans, the Jaeger Division was involved in hazardous anti-partisan warfare in the rugged terrain of the Yugoslav mountains. Frustrated, the Jaeger Division replied to the IC/AO

(intelligence/counter-intelligence) office in Araski where Waldheim was serving, that there was "hope of success only if all male citizens are seized and deported". The division was granted permission to organize this extraordinary mass round-up. As with many similar requests, the messages went through the small IC/AO office and some of Waldheim's messages have survived.

An incriminating "W" has been found on several documents sent to army groups, advising them of suspected partisan groups and hideouts. Such messages led to a single result: villagers would be massacred, often after torture and rape, and their houses set alight. On the completion of one such incident, code-named "Operation Viper", on August 15 1944, Waldheim recorded: "Further cleansing with destruction of all villages without important contact with the enemy".

This description of "cleansing" and "mopping-up operations" or "counter-measures" is the familiar vocabulary of the Nazis' mass terror, and would explain why, even if these words were not Waldheim's, he pretended for 40 years that he had not left Vienna after 1941, and why he made no mention in the "White Book" (the document published last year by the Austrian government to rebut allegations and explain Waldheim's Balkan service) of these signed reports. On April 4 1986, Waldheim claimed ignorance of war crimes in the Balkans. Three days later, he said: "Yes, I knew. I was horrified. But what could I do? I either had to continue to serve or be executed".

Waldheim emphatically denies suggestions that he was an important intelligence officer. Yet other documents show that in the absence of his superior he delivered a number of briefings to General Erich Schmidt-Richberg, the chief of the General Staff of Army Group E's High Command. Only three documents have survived and they show Waldheim in 1944 involved in briefing the general on the use of hostages "to ensure the security of rail transport", the fate of slave labour and the effects of the assassination attempt upon Hitler.

Two other documents, however, contribute further to undermining Waldheim's denial of the importance of his note. Soon after the initial exposure of his war record in 1986, it was alleged — at



Waiting for execution: Hitler ordered that "bandits captured in battle" were to be interrogated and then shot, according to the official war diary of Army Group E in the Balkans

first denied by Waldheim, but then admitted — that he had been present in March 1942 at Operation Kozara, a huge undertaking intended to clear the Sarajevo-Dubrovnik-Ptujevia triangle of partisans. The orders included instructions for mass reprisals at the rate of 100 executions for each German killed and mass deportations to concentration camps of the "sub-humans".

The initial evidence of Waldheim's presence was his name listed as receiving the King Zvonimir Medal in silver with oak leaves for "courageous conduct in combat" during Operation Kozara. At first, Waldheim insisted that the medals were "handed out like confetti" to non-combatants like himself. Then it was revealed that only three officers out of 20,000 involved in the operation had received the award, and that Waldheim was a member of the Command Staff.

Waldheim first insisted that he was merely an interpreter, then denied he was even present — "I was confused about the geography

of the area," he said in one interview — and finally augmented the gravity of his contradictions by insisting that after the operation he became a simple "supply officer". Research in this unit's surviving files by the US Department of Justice now suggests that some supply officers, but not Waldheim, arranged the liquidation and transportation of 68,000 Serbian civilians to concentration camps. Waldheim will be given the opportunity to explain his duties when he appears, either later this month or early next, before the commission of six historians set up by the Austrian government to investigate his wartime activities.

He is, however, on firmer ground in answering the charges that his own intelligence reports in 1944 regarding partisan activity prompted "cleansing operations" around Iraklion in Crete and along the Stip-Kocane road in Macedonia. Waldheim claims that his only function was to compile the daily "enemy situation" report. His detractors claim that by discriminating between the reports and emphasizing those which were important, he bears responsibility for the massacres which followed.

In his defence, Waldheim cites the German officer responsible for the massacre at Stip-Kocane, Captain Karl-Heinz Egberts-Hilker, who said in his final plea to a Belgrade court in 1947 that he was solely responsible for the deed.

Changing the story

Some 42,000 Jews were transported from Salonika: what did Waldheim know?

The most emotionally charged accusation levelled against Waldheim concerns his participation in the fate of Greece's Jews. Soon after Waldheim's initial exposure in the spring of 1986, he said in an interview that he was "not aware" of any deportations of Jews from Greece to Auschwitz, and that he had never "served in army units linked with... deportations of Greek Jews". But in a document dated September 22 1944, originating from the IC/AO office in Araski, there is specific reference to "deportation of Jews".

Waldheim first insisted that he was in Vienna for his marriage at that time, but another document with his initial dated September 7 proves that he had returned. He only left on October 14. Waldheim's knowledge of this is clear from the exchange of messages between the IC/AO office in Araski and Wehrmacht commanders on the islands of Rhodes, Crete and Corfu, concerning the arrest and transportation of Jews to Auschwitz.

While still denying any such involvement, he has reversed his earlier claims that he did not know about the deportation of 42,000 Jews from Salonika, one fifth of the city's population, between mid-March and mid-May 1943. The

small SS group specially sent to Salonika to organize the daily transports was aided by General Alexander Löhr's staff. (Löhr was hanged as a war criminal in 1947). At first Waldheim said he knew nothing about the deportations, which occurred just three miles from his headquarters. Then he told the US Department of Justice that he was absent from Greece until April 1943, but later changed his mind and wrote that he only returned to Araski in July 1943. However, he had unwittingly contradicted those versions in a letter to his American publisher, stating his return as March 1943.

Yet in the "White Book", Waldheim wrote that until April he was in Vienna and was then posted to Thessalonika, Albania. The confusion, initiated by Waldheim querying in an interview whether Jews had actually been deported from Greece, is a classic line of defence used by those suspected of involvement. First, they make an absolute denial and then, as the evidence unravels, they present a chronology which places themselves far away.

It now depends upon how the commission of historians interprets these contradictions, and what conclusions are drawn. But that alone will not satisfy those who seek to condemn Waldheim. Government officials in Vienna are hinting that the commission has failed to discover "a smoking gun" which would distinguish Waldheim from thousands of other "innocent" cogs in the Nazi murder machine.

As Michael Graff, the general secretary of Austria's leading People's Party, eloquently if indelicately said: "So long as no one can prove that Waldheim, with his own hands, strangled six Jews, there's no problem". In crude terms, the distinction is between the officer who herded the Jews on to the trains for Auschwitz and the

officer at headquarters who plotted their destiny.

The possible difference is that the man with the overview is more culpable. Herbert Waldheim's defence, which his countrymen have accepted, is that he was merely a hapless pawn performing his duty and that "there was no intent to conceal". Few non-Austrians have properly understood that Austria's participation in the subjugation of the Balkans was, for Waldheim's fellow countrymen, a popular Holy War blessed by the Vatican. In June the Pope is due to visit Austria. Waldheim's intention to receive the Pontiff hangs on a group of historians.

But before that visit, Waldheim's critics will follow with keen interest his stewardship on March 13 of the remembrance ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss. Waldheim will be centre-stage for an occasion of rich and unprecedented irony.

Since 1945, Austrian politicians have successfully skirted around the newsworthy images of their jubilant countrymen greeting Adolf Hitler as he returned in triumph to his homeland. Although after 1945 Austria's power brokers were never subjected to proper denazification and accordingly retained most of their ill-gotten gains, the nation's political leaders have been hitherto relatively untroubled by accusations of Nazism. Waldheim has destroyed that cosy camouflage.

For his own survival, he has adamantly insisted that he, on the anniversary, will champion the cause of Austria's supposed valiant resistance to Nazism. It is conceivable that during the short time which will elapse between the publication of the commission's report and these ceremonies, his attempts to prove his non-involvement will offend too many of his countrymen and provoke a crisis, causing his resignation.

His stubborn nature and his statements that, contrary to his original pledge, he will not be bound by the commission's findings suggest he harbours the hope that by gradually admitting certain knowledge he will deflect the commission's findings.

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April 27, 1987
Mr. Richard E. Morton
Associate Commissioner for Examinations
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Mr. Morton:

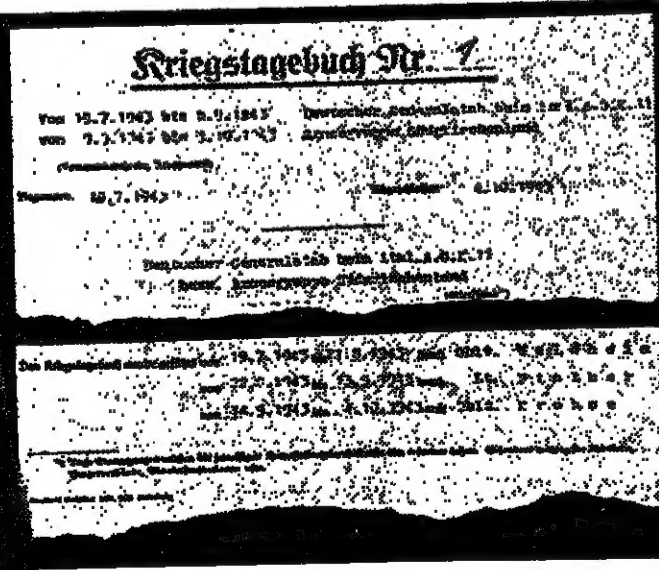
This letter serves as a request for the Immigration and Naturalization Service to place Kurt Waldheim (DOB: 21 December 1918, St. Andrä-Wördern, Austria) in the National Immigration Lookout System (NALS).

Due to such wartime activities, Waldheim is barred entry into the U.S. under Section 212(a)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, as amended, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(3).

Sincerely yours,
Neil M. Sher
Director
Office of Special Investigations
Criminal Division
Washington, D.C. 20065



Waldheim the Wehrmacht officer and (above) the letter barring him from entry into the US



The official diary of Army Group E with Oberleutnant Waldheim registered as the compiler from July to August 1943

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1466

ACROSS

- Counting frame (6)
- Worshipped object (6)
- Golf professional (3)
- Jagged mountain range (6)
- Unsuspecting (6)
- Constituency (4)
- Smarten (8)
- Disjointed speech (6,7)
- First-class (8)
- Pitches (4)
- Big game hunt (6)
- Nail polish (6)
- Whale (3)
- Little river (6)
- Attempting (6)

DOWN

- Green "fat" (5)
- Building supervisor (9)
- Austere (7)
- Past off (3)
- Male cat (3)
- Post Preface hymn (7)
- Organ improvisation (9)
- Take back (7)
- Overlook (7)
- Group vocabulary (5)
- Primp (5)
- Consumed (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1465

ACROSS: 1 Sound 2 Buck 3 Copse 4 Mordant 11 Acrostich 13 Fuel 15 Frustrate 18 Cuts 19 Bereweave 22 Morello 23 Pelt 24 Vest 25 Kipper

DOWN: 2 Topic 3 Ace 4 Dome of the Rock 5 Bore 6 Statute 7 Scrag 10 Tilt 12 Song 14 Rake 15 Fibreg 16 Scum 17 Addle 20 Verge 21 Sun 23 Pig

Three teachers have come up with a home aid for parents and children who are baffled by the mysteries of the 'new' maths

Help is at hand for children who can't cope with "new" maths, and parents who want to help them. Never again will there be an excuse for a helpless reaction when a confused mite comes home with the question: "Mummy, can you help me with my coefficients and vectors?"

Nearly every diligent family has some kind of reference book in the house to help with every school subject — except maths. Worse still, parents feel it is the single subject which has changed the most since they left school themselves.

Even parents young enough to have spent years at school struggling with vectors, Venn diagrams (no one ever explained to me what they were for) and acres of graphs, almost certainly consigned it all to oblivion the minute the O level certificate dropped on to the doormat.

Help you can count on

Now three teachers have come up with the answer — a complete home reference system for mathematics. They have completed six of a planned series of nine books and tapes guiding the pupil, and the parent, through the jungle in a course which is designed to match the secondary syllabus leading to GCSE.

Laurie and Pam Buxton and Basil Norbury are maths teachers and have spent four years developing *The Sound Way of Learning Mathematics*. Its price of £49.99 for six books accompanied by 12 audio cassettes appears expensive, but it is worth remembering that it is a step-by-step guide through six years of secondary school mathematics

from ages 11-16, carefully matched to the new GCSE syllabus.

The idea is that parents can buy the first instalment when their child begins secondary school and starts to ask difficult questions. Together with the parents, the child can go over ground covered in the classroom, using the audio cassettes for support and guidance. If the system works, the family can build up the full set over the years — each part bought on its own currently costs £9.99.

Norbury believes that the great advantage of the course is that it gives children a chance to practise skills at home without fear of falling behind in class. So a child who

is confused when he meets a new concept at school can turn to his home reference book for explanations. At the same time, children who don't have so much difficulty at school can improve their grasp of the subject with the exercises in the Buxton/Norbury text.

For example, in Part 4 there are four lessons on graphs and six on geometry. The first lesson explains "everyday graphs", with examples of bar charts, temperature graphs, conversion graphs up to more sophisticated time/distance graphs.

A series of exercises builds up confidence and understanding until, by the fourth lesson, the child is dealing with "Construct a table for the

straight line $y = 5x + 2$ for values of x from -3 to +3. Draw the graph using a scale of 1 unit to 2cm on the x-axis and 10 units to 2cm on the y-axis. State the gradient of the line".

Norbury says: "This is the key to progress in maths for many children — the chance to practise and talk about the subject — perhaps even develop a deeper interest in it, with the family at home."

The course is not intended to be a substitute for a teacher. But it will be interesting to hear the opinions of teachers whose pupils use it to support their classwork. The course does not have to be followed completely — it can be used merely as a reference book or

revision aid, thanks to a comprehensive index in each section.

The audio cassettes provide a commentary, sometimes enriching the text and sometimes "talking through".

But Norbury, who has been writing audio mathematics programmes for eight years, suspects that the course will be used as much by parents as by children. For the first time, they will be able to learn or relearn the "new" maths alongside their child, and have a knowledge of the subject when they are discussing progress with the teachers.

Sarah Thompson

The Sound Way of Learning Mathematics, by Laurie Buxton, Pamela Buxton and Basil Norbury. Sound Educational Audio Learning, the Swan Centre, Fishers Lane, London, W4 1RX. Full course £49.99 (six parts).

HONG KONG FASHION by Liz Smith



Far left: Smoke blue quilted cotton coat, padded trousers, Kwong Wai Tai Sportswear. Photograph by Jimmie Wing. Above centre: Chinese schoolgirl style in white cotton broderie and denim, Uniform. Left centre: Pannier top edged in embroidery with pencil skirt, Ben Yeung. Right centre: Ruffled dress with asymmetric filled skirt, Ben Yeung. Photographs by Idria Motes. Far right: Leather and sheepskin coats with generous caped collars, Ragence Lam. Photograph by Oliver Tsang

Where the East meets the best

It is not just the harbour view from the bar of the Regent Hotel that draws the world's leading store buyers to Hong Kong. It is not even the tradition of skilled Chinese craftsmanship. Hong Kong's status as a compulsory stop on any fashion professional's itinerary is built solely on the industry of its work-force, and the refusal of its thriving businessmen to admit that anything demanded of them is impossible.

Yes, 200 silk-satin Charmeuse shirts can be made with precisely the lapel and generous wrapover preferred by Calvin Klein, the order for 2,000 cable-knit sweaters for Marks & Spencer will be delivered on time.

To any fashion designer, the concrete factory blocks of Kwun Tong in Kowloon hold an irresistible lure. The most advanced computerized machinery hums 24 hours a day, seven days a week, spewing out intricate, intarsia-knitting. Superior sewing and finishing skills are on tap. Embroiderers, bead-makers, fur and leather workers all give virtuoso performances.

For some of Hong Kong's home-grown designers, however, all this fashion expertise was almost their undoing when they paraded last week.

Still famous for its industrious work-force, Hong Kong can now boast of a growing talent for design, too

The heading, the appliqué fur patches, the embroidery and then a ruffle of lace and then another — all on the one garment.

The gala show that launched Hong Kong Fashion Week's trade exhibition which was opened by the Governor, Sir David Wilson, was a slick and polished affair worthy of any fashion capital. HK\$3.5 million (£2.5 million) of the total budget of HK\$8.6 million for the fashion week was invested in the show, so it may be churlish to pick on a few idiosyncrasies in taste, when all around in Kowloon, and at the exhibition organized by the HK Trade Development Council, there is evidence that manufacturers have success-

fully moved up market into quality production runs.

In spite of quota restrictions imposed by the United States and some other countries, and the protectionism deployed by the Governor in his opening speech, clothing exports continued to grow (by 29 per cent last year to £3,832 million); the 9,673 clothing factories account for 33.7 per cent of Hong Kong's exports and employ a workforce of more than 300,000.

The only things that local designers appear to lack are a clear idea of their customer and a focus on what today's busy woman really wants to wear. Hong Kong's society leaders in their glossy houses on The Peak will not be prised easily out of their European designer labels.

Ragence Lam and Rene Ozorio may dress some of the smart set at the Sha Tin and Happy Valley racetracks, and Eddie Lau may run up extravagant one-offs for local pop stars; but it is significant that Lydia Dunn, who as chairman of the HKTD and a senior member of the Legislative Council plays a central role in Hong Kong political life, wore a Valentino dress to her own

fashion gala. "We must position our fashion industry alongside the European and American designers," she says. "We must aim at the top. Then our designers will quickly develop a growing awareness of originality and design."

Ben Yeung (the only HK designer to show in London) and Rene Ozorio both cleverly interpret prevailing fashion trends and make snappy, short, dressed-up clothes. Ragence Lam (RCA trained and chairman of the HK designers' association) displayed his talents best in a group of generously collared sheepskin and leather coats.

But even Lam still seems under the spell of the unstructured style of the Japanese, which, when overlaid with the Chinese taste for fussy decoration, is not likely to have international appeal. The success of the brother and sister partnership behind the Lin Ying Ying label proved that, targeted correctly, Hong Kong style is a winner. George and Colleen Koh set up in production in 1979, and their label is now internationally known for crystal-beaded satin bustiers, lingerie and silk blouses with delicate sagging detail.

American designers Fer-

nando Sanchez and Oscar de la Renta make the trip to Hong Kong to work with the Kohs. Henry Yen, of the Top Knitters manufacturing empire, has to open a new factory every 18 months to keep pace with orders from the world's top designers and store chains.

Coming off the production lines in Kwun Tong are Ralph Lauren's top Collections line, Valentino, Ungaro and Krizia knitwear, as well as the more modestly priced ranges of the J C Penney chain, The Gap, and Marks & Spencer.

The largest exporters of customers from Hong Kong last year Top Knitters dispatched 400,000 customers' sweaters to the US alone.

The "made in Hong Kong" label means quality, but the individual designer has yet to make his or her name, although Hannah Pang of Leather Concept, Jenny Lewis who specializes in Chinese style and Diane Freis with her ruffled print dresses are among the few already well known internationally.

Ragence Lam sees the route clearly. "We must be accepted alongside Paris and London designers. We will push hard

to keep the standards up and prove we can do it."

Appropriately, it was the Young Designers show at the end of the week that reassured us that the Hong Kong fashion industry can look forward to a bright future. Students, and some recent graduates, from the Swire School of Fashion at Hong Kong Polytechnic scooped up all the prizes. Young Designer of the Year is Michael Kwok, who re-invented the classic Chinese padded silk jacket in unisex modern variations, incorporating knitting in sleeves and backs. Richard Li produced a winning line in neoprene, the wetsuit fabric, which was welded rather than stitched into strongly-shaped fitted jackets and full-skirted dresses. Andrew Yau King-Yuam's Audrey Hepburn shapes in acid line and navy had Roberta Wagner, Bloomingdale's buyer, cancelling flights to place her order on the next day.

Dunn believes that Hong Kong's strength is its ability to respond to trends. "The entrepreneurs must spot the opportunity themselves. It's the government's job to provide the framework of efficient ports facilities and communications with a minimum of bureaucracy," she says.

A modest pioneer

In any conversation about Hong Kong fashion Margaret Tancock's name crops up. A young designer, Sara Sturgeon, is launched in London with a made-in-Hong Kong label. Her backer is Margaret Tancock. Three entrants in



New arrival: suits from Sara Sturgeon's "Men" label

last week's Young Designer Awards, graduates of Hong Kong's Swire School of Fashion, are sponsored by her M Group of 25 fashion shops. Ragence Lam, chairman of the Hong Kong designers' association, and an earlier winner of the award, was brought back to Hong Kong in 1977 with Tancock's backing.

The M Group caters for every age: Birds (for career women); Circles (for career women); Sports Connection (for men and women); the Children's Clothing Company. Tancock makes Cacharel's children's collection under licence and runs eight Body Shops in Hong Kong. Talented young designers are whisked from British art colleges and installed in Kowloon.

There were no fashion shops in Hong Kong when Tancock arrived in 1964. "In those days you either took a piece of cloth and a sketch to a tailor to have made up, or rummaged through a few dismal department stores," she recalls.

All the clothes in her shops are made in Hong Kong. Could an entire industry have started from such little things? Tancock may not take credit for sparking Hong Kong's fashion boom, but she pioneered a path other retailers across the world have followed.

Making dresses with sex appeal

Diane Freis was cross. Richard Bradley, her husband and business partner, had shown me the video of the previous night's rehearsal of her show. It would spoil the surprise. "The short skirts are so new," she fussed. "The fabrics are quite different. It's more sophisticated, more of a fantasy."

Cottons, paillettes on silky viscose, flecked taffetas from France and pure silks from Italy had certainly joined the flurry of polyester georgette for which Freis is famous. And although more graphic checks, stripes and spots now cut the sugariness of her prints, most of the Freis fabric range is still smothered in the riot of pattern that is her trademark.

Freis has one advantage over other Hong Kong designers: she is her own customer. This rangy Californian with the wide blue eyes and lacquered nails divides her time between her Kowloon factory, her luxurious Harbour City flat and her new house in Beverly Hills, where she recently set up her US headquarters. She understands the self-assurance a woman acquires when she can pull one of her non-crushable frocks out of a bag after a long flight, snap on a few more pearls, and feel set to tackle the day. She is rarely sidetracked by fashion trends (those short hemlines were introduced under pressure from her American customers, she says). Her company, launched in Hong Kong in



Diane Freis: something for everyone
1977 with a \$2,000 loan from her mother and a few bolts of polyester bought in Stanley Market, now has a turnover of \$30 million (£16.5 million). Diane Freis must be the best-known Hong Kong label across the world. She has eight Hong Kong shops, three outlets in

Sydney and another five in the US. Her dresses sell especially well in Florida, California and the Caribbean, where their colourful, drip-dry, easy-fitting qualities come into their own.

They sell well here, too. Introduced by Dale Tryon in her Kanga shop in Beauchamp Place, Knightsbridge (Lady Tryon now produces her own Kanga designs in Hong Kong), the Diane Freis collection can be found in Harrods, Simpsons, Selfridges, Dickins & Jones and the John Lewis stores from about £250.

Both the Princess of Wales and Princess Margaret enjoy wearing Diane Freis dresses, so you can appreciate the versatility of her style. "I dress women to look glorious," Freis says. "My dresses are soft and tactile. They have sex appeal. A lot of psychology and emotion goes into the design. We all want to be able to put on that perfect dress and feel beautiful."

Each dress is almost unique. Only 10 exist in any one design and mix of prints. But one Diane Freis dress still looks pretty much like another. Don't women mind turning up to a party where eight out of the 20 fellow guests are similarly done up in fills and fluttering prints? "I ask them that myself," she says. "It's odd. They say they don't mind. They each feel they look different. I don't know how I get away with it."

The sight of Selma Scott in a Suzie Wong side-slit cheongsam is a treat in store for BBC2 viewers next week, when *The Clothes Show* visits Hong Kong. Needless to say, the boatman in the cooie hat taking Selma around Hong Kong island in a sampan turns out to be her co-presenter, the designer Jeff Banks.

He travels to Hong Kong regularly, normally, his long days in Kowloon are spent overseeing the production of top-quality T-shirting, expertly finished separates and Timmy and Fowler's exclusive prints on cottons which sell in his Warehouse shops. On this visit he took the BBC's cameras into the cavernous factory of Pang Brothers, top knitwear manufacturers, and explored the alternative fashion show in the streets around Nathan Road.

Expanding the programme's policy of stripping fashion of its mystique and making it simply "clothes for everyone to enjoy", *The Clothes Show* will be holding a fashion show in December at the Olympia exhibition centre in London, which will be open to everyone.

But first there is *The Clothes Show* magazine, scheduled for March, planned as a glossy and packed with clothes and beauty tips. "There is no attempt at the cookery pages or fiction that other fashion magazines feel obliged to provide," Banks says. When the magazine's impact has been assessed, it is hoped that it will appear monthly, from the autumn.

The Clothes Show in Hong Kong, BBC2, Tuesday, January 26 at 7.30pm and Wednesday, January 27, at 7.30pm.

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THE TIMES DIARY

How times change

If the only truly consistent people are the dead, then the Alliance is alive and kicking. Today Robert Maclellan will present, as his second attempt at a policy agreeable to both Liberals and Social Democrats, a document based on the Alliance's election manifesto, *Britain United*. The *Time Has Come*. Let us not then allow Maclellan to forget what he said about its contents when he addressed the SDP Assembly in September: "It will not do to dust down *The Time Has Come* and represent it as a new credo for a new party... its priorities were obscure and its focus blurred." David Steel's commitment last week to means-testing child benefit is equally mystifying. Only a month ago he voted in the Commons to support Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, a backbench Tory, in his wish to introduce a Bill not merely to retain the universal benefit but index-link it.

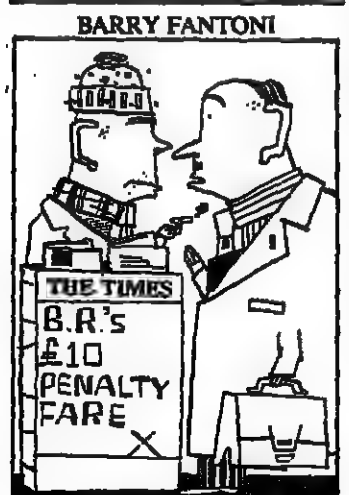
Orange orders

Is Paisley's Free Presbyterians have been accused of using agents provocateurs to discredit the liberalization of Northern Ireland's licensing laws. Gordon Harvey, chairman of the province's licensed victuallers' federation, claims that the chaos that accompanied the introduction of Sunday opening in October was organized by members of Paisley's teetotal sect. A popular tactic was to ask for a six-pack in the hope of catching out barmen unaware that off-sales were still prohibited and then report the sale to the police. As secret agents, however, the teetotalers were less than convincing, invariably appearing inconspicuously dressed in Sunday best and painfully unfamiliar with pub protocol. One agent, having ordered a six-pack and a pint, lost his nerve and — pausing only to overturn his glass — rushed out of the bar minus his trophy.

● You've heard of the drink; now smoke the cigarette. The American Tobacco Company has launched a new menthol brand named after the Californian town of Malibu — infuriating local residents. In their West Coast faddish way, some of the 26,000 population, including Dallas actor, anti-smoker and honorary mayor Larry Hagman, have mounted a campaign against the company for playing on their clean-living outdoor image. I wonder what the townsfolk of Cordoba felt like.

Moonshine

The balloon of international optimism inflated by the Reagan-Gorbachev summit is about to be pricked by 24 military experts being put up in London this week by the Rev Sun Myung Moon. After concentrating for some years on the vagaries of South-east Asia, the International Security Council — a Moon-funded think tank of hawkish soldiers, civil servants and scholars — is turning its attention to the INF treaty. Richard Perle, Reagan's former assistant defence secretary, and Joseph Luns, Lord Carrington's predecessor as Nato secretary-general, are among those now at the Hyde Park Hotel. Joseph Churba, the ISC's American president, says it is a "toss-up" whether his experts will endorse the treaty when they announce the results of their deliberations tomorrow. As for Moon's supposed wish to liberate Moscow by the year 2000, Churba says: "I wish him luck."



BARRY FANTONI
"I expect it's only valid on alternate Sundays in May between Election and Crisis"

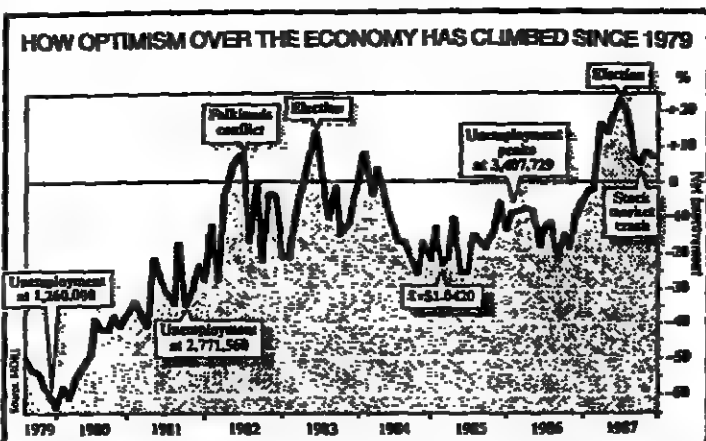
Big build-up

Mr Thatcher's house-builder, Mr Barratts, scored an own goal in North Yorkshire last week by erecting a publicity billboard on a converted site only hours after the local council had refused to let it build there. Barratts had planned a large housing development on the five-acre site near Catterick Garrison and offered Richmondshire District Council 10 old people's bungalows, £12,500 in cash and a car park as an incentive. A spokesman for Barratts said: "It was a genuine mistake. There was no intention of scoring points or pressuring anybody. We are trying to get somebody to take the sign down as soon as possible." But councillor John Church said: "Barratts jumped the gun by several weeks. Even if the housing committee had approved the scheme it would have had to be ratified by the full council at a later date. It's a bit odd to say the least."

PHS

Good-times spur for Lawson

by Rodney Lord
— Economics Editor —



Every month since 1979 Mori pollsters have asked the question: "Do you think the general economic condition of the country will improve over the next 12 months?"

improvement. There was some recovery in the second half of 1980 and in 1981 but optimism remained at a low ebb and it was not until 1982 that, inspired partly by signs of a slowdown in the rise in unemployment and by a Falklands-induced wriggle, optimism in some months began to outnumber pessimists. The more confident trend continued into 1983, helping Mrs Thatcher to win her second term.

The mood changed again, however, when the brighter turn in unemployment proved a false dawn and pessimism returned for much of the next three years. Periodic pressure on the pound deepened the gloom, most notably in January 1985 and the autumn of 1986, while the collapse of oil prices and the growing strains in the world economy as a whole, reflected in the gyrations of the dollar, increasingly cast doubt on Britain's own prospects. It was only after last year's Budget that confidence began to flow strongly again. The combination of tax cuts, lower interest rates and a strong pound swung the mood

decisively towards optimism, where it has stayed ever since. This revival of confidence provides a much more favourable background against which to take up the challenge of tax reform than the cautious mood of previous years. Entrepreneurs are more likely to take full advantage of the increased opportunities which a reformed tax system may provide for them if the general level of confidence is high. The supply side of the economy will be better able to meet buoyant demand without the economy overheating. And revenue lost through cuts in the rate of tax is more likely to be replaced through increased activity.

Some, however, are less cheerful than others. In the last three months, for instance, northerners (0 per cent) have been substantially less optimistic than southerners (+13 per cent), the unemployed (-13 per cent) are gloomier than full-time workers (+15 per cent), DE social groups (-11 per cent) see things differently from AB (+35 per cent) and, less predictably, women (0 per cent)

are more cautious than men (+16 per cent), and have consistently been so.

Some groups evidently do not see themselves as having participated in the Thatcherite revolution. The Budget will need to try to continue broadening prosperity throughout the economy, which probably implies a continuing push for greater flexibility in patterns of employment both geographically and in terms of pay.

The general improvement in confidence does, however, give the Chancellor the invaluable asset of greater political authority. The link between economic conditions and the way people vote has proved statistically elusive, but the polling information for the June 1987 election suggests that if ever an election was won on economic issues, that was it.

Because elections are won or lost on the way the flosser votes, the most revealing indicator is probably the change in voting intentions rather than the overall level. Calculations by MORI's Bob Worcester show that in the first five months of last year, changes in the balance of economic optimism when compared with changes in voting intention explained nearly 90 per cent of the electorate's varying mood. If the two series are compared back to August 1986, when Britain's economic prospects were seen as much worse than they were by the beginning of 1987, the correlation is much the same.

The contrast with the 1983 election is striking. In the first four months of that year changes in economic optimism explained little more than half the change in voting intentions. Although the economic climate was a significant influence it was clearly much less important than it was four years later.

Nothing will magically reconcile those on the losing end of any tax reforms. Any Budget changes will need to be made in the context of a carefully balanced package. But doubts about the direction of change are more likely to be stifled in an atmosphere of rising economic confidence.

Emergency: operate now



NHS in crisis: Robin Oakley, Political Editor, begins a series on the biggest challenge confronting the Government

The signs are that there is a difference of approach between Moore and the Prime Minister. He is now a politician with a reputation to restore in a hurry before her autumn reshuffle. She is a Prime Minister with more than half an eye on the world scene, who had intended this parliament to be focused on education, housing and the inner cities.

Health funding is anyway a problem which finds Mrs Thatcher in the uncharacteristic situation of being in two minds. One thirsts for radical solutions along the lines advocated by Moore; the other recalls the "safe in our hands" pledge.

As a result, while health ministers from time to time discuss in a theoretical way what alternative funds might be raised by such stratagems as hotel charges for the food and accommodation (not the medical care) of those in hospital beds, or charges for visits to GPs, Mrs Thatcher has already narrowed the options by ruling them out for the lifetime of this parliament.

What she would like is a long-running debate led by the think tanks which will enable her to come in later with a bold new policy which could then still appear to be a reasonable compromise between the nostrums advocated. Moore, a tidy-minded fellow, needs something much sharper and quicker.

He relishes the fact that the sheer ferocity of the Labour attack has telescoped the necessary public debate which must precede any Government action from three years to three months. But the whole process has become too fast even for Moore's purposes.

It is now a political necessity that he has something new to say in today's debate. But at the weekend, according to his friends, he was planning no more than a robust attack on Labour's inadequacies when in office. He takes the attitude that he will not move before he is ready. But sometimes in politics you have to adjust your play to the changing pace of the game.

A further element is the rising

expectation of how much cash the Chancellor is likely to have to "give away" in his March 15 Budget. There is already much Tory grumbling about the imposition of charges, in the Health and Medicines Bill, for previously free dental checks and eye tests. There was a sizeable revolt on the second reading and many more MPs intend to object if it is unaltered on report stage. With the Chancellor now so awash with money the revolt is likely to take on major proportions. The choruses of Tories demanding that a significant proportion of the Chancellor's extra cash should be diverted from tax cuts to the NHS is swelling, on both left and right of the party.

Moore has achieved, far faster than he might have expected, the first stage of his operation: the electorate is now aware that a state monopoly system of care rationed by queues is less than perfect. It knows there are difficulties in funding a service of infinite demand with finite resources. Even the Opposition acknowledges the problem. But it is down to Moore and Mrs Thatcher, not Neil Kinnock, to come up with the answers, and they have not nearly as much time as they may have thought last June 12.

Tomorrow: the options

Tony Blair

Alton: tactics and principles

The Alton Bill, banning abortion after 18 weeks, is due for debate this Friday, placing before MPs that rare item, an "issue of conscience". The term suggests MPs in some monastic retreat, but in fact the political heat from constituents has been infinitely fiercer than over matters of everyday party controversy.

Personally, I have found it an agonising decision. Both my constituents and probably my constituency party would wish me to support the Bill. Though most of my Labour colleagues will oppose it, all but the extreme fringe are united in their insistence that it is a free vote. But it is not the political pressure that is troubling; it is the profound questions the issue raises about the nature of our society and the laws it should pass.

Most people accept neither an absolute right for women to choose or a total prohibition on abortion. We recognize that we are resolving a conflict: between the rights of the woman and those of the fetus or unborn child. The real question is when the one prevails over the other.

At present, the law is the product of the Abortion Act 1967 and the Infant Life (Preservation) Act 1929. Abortions are permitted on various grounds (certifiable by two doctors) up to the time when the fetus is capable of life independent of its mother. Once the fetus has been carried for 28 weeks, that is prima facie evidence that it can survive.

It does not follow (and this is widely misunderstood) that abortions are necessarily lawful under 28 weeks; simply that they are not prima facie unlawful. Any fetus capable of life that is aborted, whether under 28 weeks or not, is actually aborted wrongly. In practice, the 28-week rule is the benchmark for criminal prosecutions, though as medical science advances, then even under existing law that could change.

The Alton Bill would outlaw all abortions after 18 weeks, except in two cases: to save the life of the woman or when the fetus has a disability incompatible with life.

There were 172,286 abortions in 1986, 8,276 or 4.8 per cent of which were after 18 weeks. The immediate difficulty with Alton's proposal, therefore, is that it does not affect 95 per cent of abortions or the grounds on which abortion can be obtained. It alters the legitimacy solely by reference to the time the fetus has been carried. The limit of 18 weeks seems chosen for no easily discernible reason, whereas the existing limit is specifically based on the capability of independent life.

But it is the abortions after 18 weeks which are precisely the most sympathetic: where the fetus is found to have serious disability; young girls too afraid or ignorant to acknowledge pregnancy; those delayed by the NHS; women who for one reason or another have come late, and so

usually in circumstances of great anguish, to want an abortion.

Some MPs, perhaps a decisive number, are attracted by the notion that the time limit for abortion should be reduced to reflect medical advances allowing the fetus to survive earlier, and are inclined to vote for the Bill with a view to amending it to, say, 23 or 24 weeks rather than 18.

This is beguiling but dangerous. The purpose of the Alton Bill is not to do with redefining the concept of the capacity to survive independently of the mother. That could have been done by a simple amendment to the 1929 Act or even under existing law. Its purpose is to *abandon* the idea that the rights of the fetus somehow depends on its independent capability to live. Parliament should be wary of legislating a tactical manoeuvre disguised as a principled compromise.

The truth is that the Bill is hard to justify except as a first step. To be fair, the proposers of the Bill will admit that they want virtually all abortions to be unlawful and to them the advantage of the Bill is that it paves the way to taking the law still further. But the critical votes required to secure the passage of the Alton Bill will, in fact, be given on the contrary basis: that the Bill should then be amended to be more liberal. It must be unlikely that satisfactory legislation will emerge.

There is one final point put most persuasively by my parish priest to me: the Bill at least makes a statement. It signifies that we, as a society, take the rights of the fetus seriously and obliges us to justify interference with them.

This is a useful answer to it lies in the nature of the statement we want to make. Any sensible person is against abortion. The real question is whether, outside of the obvious protection given to a fetus capable of surviving without the mother, and the requirement to show minimal cause to obtain an abortion, the law should make criminal those who face the acute moral and personal dilemmas of carrying an unwanted child and decide to abort; in other words, to force where we failed to persuade.

When we reject this proposition, we do not in any sense deny the rights of the fetus or affirm a belief in abortion. We merely reject the law as the best instrument to resolve the conflicts between the rights of the fetus or child and those of the woman.

The inescapable consequence of the Alton Bill is that a woman will be made, under threat of criminal penalties, to carry and give birth to a child, perhaps severely disabled, that she does not want. I do not say she is right in those circumstances, to have an abortion. But I cannot, in conscience, as a legislator, say that I can take that decision for her.

The author is Labour MP for Seaford.

however... Henry Stanhope

Willie no come back again

Twice in the month of January, Nineteen Eighty Eight, That the poor people awoke to find themselves facing a most terrible fate.

For the man who for many a year had piloted their island race, Through fearful tempests, now in this year of grace

Alas, declared that he was going to retire

To his windswept estate in a fir-off Northern shire And leave the helm in the hands of his handmaiden,

(A prospect which caused fearful perturbation.) I refer of course to that great nobleman Lord Whitelaw,

Who, though many had once thought him a right bore, It now transpired had been an eminence grise

Without whom the ship of state would surely have been brought to its verry knees.

So genial had he seemed, That no one had realized at first that he knew enough

To sort out who was dry and who was wet And who was friend or foe in Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet.

Now one might think that there could be nobody more sinister Than he who is said to be the power behind the Prime Minister.

But it is a little-known fact that Louis the Thirteenth once cried "Mon Dieu, However could I have coped without Cardinal Richelieu?"

And since the year 1890 we have all been verry much wiser On account of seeing what happened to Germany after Bismark had been got rid of by the Kaiser.

As for Lloyd George, he was of course verry fond Of placing himself in the hands of an eminence blonde.

It was therefore a long and established political tradition Which was inherited by this rich and powerful Tory politician

Whom reporters thought one of the Cabinet's great charmers. Because he spoke to them as to his tenant farmers.

Not since the resignation of Mr H.H. Asquith Had anyone at Westminster faced up to his or her Herculean task with Greater diligence or dedication.

Than this stout pillar of the English nation.

So ruthless was he and yet, so blessed in his sagacity That nobody in the Lobby, it seemed, dared doubt this capacity

To throw them out of Downing Street if e'er they tried To question his authority at Maggie's side.

But now the country's intrepid Mrs Thatcher

Faced a problem which her enemies thought would catch her. Where might she find a new deputy who could steer

Her ship, as he had this faithful unambitious hereditary peer? As the Cabinet assembled at Number Ten,

Gloomily she surveyed the band of anxious men Whom she had carefully selected, to prepare

The country for the dawn of a new age of laissez-faire. The Home and Foreign Secretaries of State,

(more suited for quieter pastures of debate) that great chamber of debate

Of Energy, Defence and Education (All of whom were interested only in raising their political station),

Of Trade and Industry, Employment and of Health, And the Chancellor who was responsible for harbouring the country's greatest wealth

Could he trust any of these unquestioningly? As she had been able to do with poor Willie,

To carry out her writ throughout the realm Without taking advantage while she was preoccupied at the helm?

As in the North, the ex-leader of the House of Lords Posed for photographers in flat cap, Barbour jacket and fine pair of cords,

The country awaited word from Downing Street On who in Cabinet might soon occupy his seat

As deputy. Then came the word that no one would.

It was to be, she said, as it most clearly should. So that future political historians might record that the noblest

That Willie was the noblest Thatcherite of them all. (Apologies to Mr McGonagall)

Why Britain must stand up to Peking

There is a great danger of Britain failing in its obligation towards the people of Hong Kong by failing to stand up to the Chinese government in the lead-up to 1997. This appears to mean that China now holds the whip hand by claiming that nothing should be done that might contravene its own Basic Law, on the drafting of which neither the British nor Hong Kong governments have been consulted.

Last year the Hong Kong government duly carried out the consultative exercise of gauging Hong Kong public opinion to which it had been committed. But it pursued the relevant questions in so complicated a way that it has been able to interpret the answers as being blurred, in a manner that suits its short-term requirements: namely, that the Hong Kong government recognizes that there is a desire for democracy but there is no majority for introducing it for the time being, and that it is not clear what procedures should be adopted.

Yet every independent opinion poll conducted in Hong Kong gives an overwhelmingly clear response that the majority not only want democracy but want direct elections for the positions on the Legislative Council due to be appointed later this year. The Hong Kong government is to publish a White Paper in

April. Many fear it will obfuscate the issue and in effect wait for the Chinese to draft their Basic Law in accordance with their own idiosyncratic ideas of democracy.

These developments cannot be in the best interests of the people of Hong Kong now, or in the future. Nor can they really be in the interests of China. As Taiwan moves towards a more genuinely representative democracy, the people there will not be impressed by a non-democratic Hong Kong that is hailed as an example of "one country two systems" that Peking wishes to apply to them too.

Once again, high principle and long-term interests would seem to converge. There is still time to ensure that British values and Britain's reputation will be upheld by discharging our responsibilities to the nearly six million people of Hong Kong. No greater symbol of this could be given than for the White Paper due in April to call for direct elections to the Legislative Council this year.

Michael Yahuda

The author is senior lecturer in international relations at the London School of Economics. This is an edited version of a letter sent to the Prime Minister.



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

HONOURABLE FAILURE

The document which brought Mr David Steel and Mr Robert MacLennan so much trouble last week was bad politics because it upset too many people. The substitute document which their two negotiating teams are to announce today will be worse politics because it will upset too few.

The new document will be one on which many people of goodwill can agree. That alone should arouse suspicion. A group of politicians must be very divided if all they can agree upon are pieties. The group of politicians who make up the centre of British politics are very divided indeed.

An agreement on policy between Mr Steel and Mr MacLennan was rejected by Mr Steel's party last week. Contrary to what some politicians seem to think, a week is a short enough time in politics for something which happened in one week to be well within the public's attention span in the next.

The troubles in the way of the merger have only just begun. Probably there will still be a merger, but at great cost. The Liberal community politicians will still be against the new document — though one of their spiritual leaders, Mr Des Wilson, was in the Liberal negotiating team, and says all is well. They will be against it because they are Liberal community politicians, not because of anything inflammatory which the document will contain. Unofficial copies circulating last night revealed one of the least inflammatory pronouncements in British political history.

Those Liberal true believers will be against it because they suspect that last week's version was the real one. They see it as the secret agenda, agreed between Mr MacLennan and Mr Steel, and designed to ditch them because they are thought an electoral embarrassment. That was certainly Mr MacLennan's aim, and — for a while — it was Mr Steel's. But to accuse Mr Steel of abandoning this is to ignore his legendary flexibility on policies.

In commending last week's document, he more or less told his fellow Liberals that those were his principles and that, if they did not like them, he would change them. They did not like them. Many pro-merger Social Democrats did

not like them either, not because they disagreed with them but because they thought they would upset too many Liberals and prevent the merger. So it was agreed that three negotiators, not including Mr Steel, would sit down with three SDP representatives, not including Mr MacLennan, and change them.

So, in the new document, there will be no brandishing of Trident at the Soviet Union, or at the Liberal community politicians or at whoever last week's paragraphs on Trident were directed. Instead, there will be a harmless passage about the need to work for world nuclear disarmament — which desirable end would naturally include the abolition of British nuclear weapons.

That is something to which Mr MacLennan could respectfully assent, but it was hardly the point about nuclear weapons which he was emphasizing last week. Then he was saying that Britain had to make sure that, so long as other countries had nuclear weapons, Britain should have the next generation of them; a very different emphasis.

Mr Steel, whether or not he remains leader, will have no difficulty in accepting this sort of compromise since such stuff has become his stock in trade. But Mr MacLennan's reputation is for solid adherence to grand themes, such as Nato and the need for a British nuclear deterrent, or smaller themes enunciated at judiciously inappropriate moments — such as VAT on children's clothing.

The commitments which he forced on Mr Steel last week offered hope for Britain, not just on defence. By talking about "targeting" child benefit at those in need, he matched the most radical Tories and challenged them to say whether they were as sincere as him in wanting the money thus saved to go to the truly needy. He should now say that this new document is unacceptably feeble, and should return to an SDP under Dr Owen's leadership.

There will be a period of estrangement from the Liberals. But the sad realities of centre party politics will compel another electoral alliance before long. Mr MacLennan will have forgone the tiny pleasures of being the leader of a tiny party, but he will have kept his honour.

SERVICE BACK STAGE

Some instinctive eyebrows will be raised at the news that a younger member of the Royal Family is joining the professional theatre. It may be thought not quite right for Prince Edward to be making his debut on the lowest rung of theatrical management for so thoroughly commercial an operation as Mr Andrew Lloyd-Webber's Really Useful Company. Why, it is asked, could this Thespian prince not be launched into the National Theatre or some other non-profit-making and subsidized body?

Such reactions are understandable. But they are wrong, insensitive and illogical too. The best argument against Prince Edward's decision would be on the general principle that the Royal Family should be engaged wholly and only in public duties. That would accord with the traditional mystique of a Royal Family whose public duty is untainted with personal ambition and interest.

In contemporary society, however, there is not enough available public service to fulfil younger members of the Royal Family who want to do something positive with their lives and are not satisfied with largely ceremonial and decorative roles. The Prince of Wales has carved out for himself a special place in the life of the nation, often encouraging independent thinking in areas where it is much needed. The Duke of York has embarked on the professional career of a naval officer and plainly relishes it. Prince Edward had a period in the Royal Marines, did not like it and left. He was entitled to do so and it was good sense.

What then was open to Prince Edward but some form of participation in the ordinary life

of the nation? The younger members of the Royal Family are constantly exhorted from parts of the media to do something more substantial than ceremonial duties. Had the prince opted to go into industry or the City he might have been more readily applauded. Yet in logic there is not a pin to choose between being a graduate trainee of a bank or industrial conglomerate and joining a theatre company as a production assistant where his purpose, in his own words, is "to learn more about the theatre professionally", and to do so in the ranks.

Prince Edward is not the first member of the immediate Royal Family to embark on making a non-Royal career. The Princess Royal has made a reputation for herself as an international equestrian sportsman, and still has time left over for conspicuously useful charitable work. The Earl of Harewood, admittedly a king's grandson rather than the monarch's son, has had a distinguished career in opera management. There is no reason why Prince Edward should not follow their example and still have time for Royal duties, especially in the arts in which he is interested.

This new active role of members of the Royal Family in non-Royal pursuits must however, carry a caveat. Care must be taken both by the working members of the Royal Family and by those who give them work. It is easy to envisage theatrical enterprises in which it would be unacceptable to involve Prince Edward. The more the Queen's children go out into the ordinary life of the nation, forsaking the artificial trappings of dignity, the more important it is for them to preserve a real dignity of living. Nothing should be asked of them that diminishes it.

NORTH PACIFIC PARIAH

As midnight struck on Sunday, South Korea won a signal — and entirely peaceful — victory over its northern neighbour and implacable enemy. The deadline for entries to the 1988 Olympic Games had passed with a record 161 countries agreeing to take part. Only three of those invited had failed to reply, and only another three had declined. One, Nicaragua, cited the state of war at home; the other two were Cuba and North Korea.

The tally was a comprehensive defeat for North Korea. Not only had it failed to persuade the International Olympic Committee that it should stage more than the eight Olympic events it had been offered, but it had not persuaded any country of significance to boycott the Games either. Only Cuba cited its support of North Korea's claim to act as co-host as its reason for not going to Seoul, and Cuba today has little of the standing it had even 10 years ago as the vanguard of Third World revolution.

North Korea is now more isolated than it has ever been. For its gesture to have been in the least effective, Pyongyang would have to have convinced either Moscow or Peking, preferably both, to stay away from Seoul as well. In the event both have accepted the invitation.

There was a time when considerations of ideological solidarity might have persuaded them to join North Korea. So too would strategic interests. For nearly 30 years, the rivalry between Moscow and Peking made each cautious about allowing the other to gain the upper hand in Pyongyang. Now, not only have the Soviet Union and China started to mend their relations (without the help of North Korea), but both seem to believe that their interests are better served by courting the South than by pandering to the North.

Pyongyang is now in the unenviable position of needing Moscow and Peking more than they need it. The blame for this isolation rests exclusively with the North Korean leadership.

Grandly styling the country the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, it has instituted what is, even by the standards of communism, one of the world's least democratic regimes. The "great leader and teacher", Kim Il Sung, has built a personality cult which yields little in hyperbole to that of Stalin.

Kim, moreover, has squandered much of the ideological sympathy he might have enjoyed from other communist states by adopting Marxism-Leninism with his idiosyncratic *Chuche* philosophy and introducing the novel concept of a communist dynasty. He has unashamedly groomed his son, Kim Jong Il, as his successor and presented him as such to foreign leaders.

Pyongyang's self-inflicted isolation poses the risk, however, that it will resort to desperate action. North Korea has repeatedly been implicated in terrorism against the South. Last week, the confession of a Korean woman — however it was obtained — blamed the North for bringing down a South Korean plane off the coast of Thailand and killing all on board. The timing of the incident, on the eve of the presidential election in the South and as many countries were deciding whether to attend the Seoul Olympics, suggested yet another attempt by the North to intimidate the South and all who would deal with Seoul.

While that attempt clearly failed, Pyongyang's isolation will only encourage it to try again. Yesterday, the President of the International Olympic Committee emphasized that there was still time for North Korea to change its mind, both on staging the events it had been offered and on its participation. That would be the reasonable course. Given its record, however, North Korea will probably demur. In which case, all those who have pledged to attend the Olympics, and Seoul itself, will need to exercise special vigilance — and a steadfast refusal to give in to terrorism.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fear of weapon against legal aid

From Mr R. A. Hytner, QC
Sir, At a time when the House of Lords is considering the Legal Aid Bill in detail it is to be hoped that particular consideration will be given to the Government's extraordinary attempt to curtail the rights of both barristers and solicitors to question the Lord Chancellor's decisions by judicial review in the courts.

Under section 32 of the Bill the Lord Chancellor "shall be entitled to have regard to... the cost to public funds... among a number of factors, when setting the level of remuneration for those carrying out legally-aided work. While this is an entirely legitimate consideration when the Government is determining the extent of legal aid, it is the wording of this section rather than the introduction of this new factor which creates a blanket defence in the courts against a review of his decisions.

Given that the wording of the Bill clearly fails to acknowledge the principle of allowing fair remuneration for work actually and reasonably done (unlike the Government White Paper and previous legislation), the substitution of the words "shall be entitled to have regard to" in place of the current legislation's "may have regard to" can only be seen as an attempt by the back door to prevent a review of the manner in

which the Government carries out its obligations to the professions. You will recall that lawyers successfully sought to review the decision of a former Lord Chancellor on this question by means of judicial review in 1986.

Should this provision be passed unamended it will place a weapon in the hands of a Lord Chancellor who may be under intolerable pressure from the Treasury to reduce expenditure on the legal-aid scheme. The use of such a weapon will have serious repercussions for the legally-aided litigant, since a reduction in fees for lawyers will inevitably lead to a reduction in the numbers and quality of those prepared to carry out such work and hence to a second-class system of justice for those who depend upon the scheme.

At present, all the Government has to do to avoid being subject to judicial review is to "act fairly". Does the change in the Bill signal an intention on its part to act unfairly towards both branches of the profession?

Yours etc,
BENET HYTNER (Chairman of the Bar Council),
The General Council of the Bar,
11 South Square,
Gray's Inn, WCL,
January 18.

25 years of Franco-German accord

From the Ambassadors of France and of the Federal Republic of Germany

Sir, Two of the European Communities' member States will be celebrating on January 22 a special anniversary, the signing 25 years ago, of the treaty on Franco-German cooperation. This event was generally recognized at the time, both inside and outside Europe, as a landmark in international relations.

Everyone — and certainly our British friends — remembers the devastation caused by the two world wars. In the minds of Winston Churchill, Robert Schuman, Alcide de Gasperi and other great Europeans, the first priority after the last war was to prevent a recurrence of such conflicts.

With the same end in view, Chancellor Adenauer and General de Gaulle undertook to set the seal on our reconciliation by establishing it on lasting foundations. Today we welcome the fact that not only the old antagonisms are dead but that, in the words of the Elysee joint declaration of January 22, 1963, the relations between the two peoples have been "profoundly transformed".

By meeting at regular intervals — "at least twice a year" — and launching a wide-ranging programme of cooperation that has not only foreign affairs and defence but many other fields, including education and exchanges of young people, our two countries' leaders have gradually forged close ties that by no means preclude bilateral cooperation with other partners. They have thus also consciously furthered the construction of Europe.

As the treaty stipulates, our Community partners have always been kept "informed of the development of Franco-German cooperation". In the last 25 years the French and Germans have aimed jointly to be a dynamic force in Europe. They have quite naturally come to put in their European partners a number of constructive proposals in pursuit

of economic, technological (e.g., Eureka) and other goals.

Implementation of the Elysee programme on defence cooperation, which began in 1982, has recently gained momentum in harmony with the revitalization of Western European Union. It takes into account the fact that one of our two countries has its forces integrated in Nato and does not possess nuclear weapons, whereas the other, a nuclear power, is outside the integrated military organization, while maintaining a considerable conventional presence on German soil.

As the WEU-platform of October, 1987, stated, our countries — as well as Britain — are convinced that a united Europe will remain incomplete as long as it does not include security and defence, thus making a stronger contribution to the Alliance.

As the President of the French Republic recalled on November 24, 1987, "We, Germans and French are loyal Atlantic Alliance partners and mean to fulfil our obligations towards it". Indeed, the governments in Bonn and Paris, when developing their co-operation in the fields of defence and security even further, do not want to forge an exclusive relationship. Our Allies, and in particular the United Kingdom, which is playing such a major role in the European institutions — EC, WEU, Council of Europe — know that our initiatives contribute significantly to the strength of the West.

The Franco-German treaty, now 25 years old, is furthering both our two peoples' highest interests and the cause of the strong and stable Europe we believe the world needs.
Yours sincerely,
RÜDIGER VON WECHMAR,
LUC DE LA BARRE DE
NANTEUIL,
Ambassade de France en Grande Bretagne,
58 Knightsbridge, SW1,
January 18.

Forests in Sarawak

From the High Commissioner for Malaysia

Sir, Lord Shackleton's letter in *The Times* of January 5 would call for some comments. At the outset we wish to make one fundamental point — namely, it is our national policy to get all members of the Malaysian community to enjoy, in equal measure as much as possible, the facilities provided by the State. The Penans therefore should have access to all the modern (for want of a better word) amenities — housing, medical services, education, facilities, to name but a few — that would ensure a decent way of living.

But today the Penans, in the words of Lord Shackleton, "are simply forest-dwelling hunter-gatherers, most of whom live, not in long houses but in huts or shelters in the forest". Such lifestyle sounds deceptively blissful. The Penans deserve a better life.

Timber loggings are licensed by the State under stringent conditions on reforestation in order to ensure the future supply of timber and ecological balance. Sarawak has 9.4 million hectares of forest land; some are reserved for national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and 5,590 hectares for communal forests. Six million hectares are licensed for timber loggings. Current reforestation is approximately 3,000 hectares, while forest affected by shifting cultivation is approximately 2.2 million hectares.

Lord Shackleton also calls

All over the place

From Mr Martin Banham
Sir, Your illustration (January 14) of Mr Scarpill leaving a mimes' meeting in Wales is captioned "Exit stage left". In fact Mr Scarpill is exiting stage right — actor's right, audience's left. Make of that what you will.
Yours sincerely,
MARTIN BANHAM, Editor,
The Cambridge Guide to World Theatre,
4 Oakwood Gardens,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.

Catholic view of education Bill

From Mr Piers Paul Read
Sir, It is always awkward for a Catholic to take issue with the leader of his church, but my experience both as a parent and a governor of schools in the Catholic and county sectors of the State system impels me to counter Cardinal Hume's objections to the new education Bill ("No room for religion", January 13).

His first complaint is that religious education will not be part of the core curriculum. He does not say how he thinks it should be taught, but it seems to me unreasonable for Christians to expect non-Christian teachers to impose Christian truths upon an agnostic nation and foolishly to subject those few children from Christian families to courses in "comparative religion" which so often lead to a loss of faith.

Nor does it seem fair to chastise the Government or "its obsession with technology and economic prosperity". It was recognised by the Second Vatican Council in its Dogmatic Constitution on the Church that "the terrestrial city, rightly concerned with secular affairs, is governed by its own principles" and it seems to me that it is these principles which are behind Mr Baker's Bill.

The Cardinal's second objection is to the right of the Catholic voluntary-aided schools to apply for grant-maintained status despite the objections of the trustee.

Academic freedom

From Mr G. R. Adams
Sir, In Bryan Appleyard's article (Spectrum, January 8) on the troubles at the London School of Economics in 1968, he refers to my brother, Dr Walter Adams, as a Rhodesian. He was born in Brighton, Sussex. Before the war, during his career in University College, London, he worked with Sir William Beveridge as secretary of the Academic Assistance Council, which was able to save many Jewish scientists and academics from persecution by the Nazis and then resettle them in the UK and USA.

After the war, my brother became secretary of the Inter-University Council for Higher Education in the colonies, which was responsible for the establishment of many colleges, now universities, throughout the present Commonwealth, all based on the principles of academic freedom and multi-racial education.

In 1956 he was asked to become Principal of the University College of Rhodesia in very difficult political circumstances and in 1965 UDL was declared by Ian Smith's regime, leading to the long and tragic years of civil war from which Zimbabwe has now emerged.

No one could foresee the outcome, nor the length of the insurrection and Dr Adams was faced with a difficult choice. Rather than face the loss of the only centre of multi-racial education and academic freedom, he chose to stay, to defend as best he could the principles for which he had worked all his life. For this he received much personal and physical abuse.

His action was not widely understood in the UK and his appointment as Director of the LSE was used by those with other motives. The violence he saw at LSE caused him great distress and was seen as a possible threat to academic freedom at LSE. The turmoil at that time was calmed by his prudent actions which allowed LSE to weather that storm and led to improved relations with staff and students.

He should not be remembered as only a catalyst of the troubles at LSE in 1968.
Yours sincerely,
G. R. ADAMS,
Oak Cottage, Padley Mews,
Grindleford,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire,
January 8.

Rolling in the aisles

From Mr A. C. Fraser
Sir, I read with interest the account (January 9) of the restored barrel organ at West Tytherley. We have a similar organ in the church of St Bartholomew at Brightwell Baldwin. Made by Walker in 1843, it was restored by them in 1938. It has three barrels, each of which plays 10 hymns or chants.

Now only used occasionally, it was in regular use until 1938. A retired farmer, still living in the parish, was the regular "organist" and recalls being reprimanded by the rector for making too much noise in changing barrels while prayers were being said.
Yours faithfully,
A. C. FRASER,
The Orchard, Upperton,
Brightwell Baldwin,
Wallingford, Oxfordshire,
January 13.

Feverish rivalry

From Dr E. S. Leatham-Green
Sir, Of the 1,207 men and women whose obituaries were printed in your paper in 1987, 134 were stated to have had their education and/or their employment at Oxford, as against 163 from Cambridge.

We can only suppose that the fevers and agues emanating from the surrounding fens continue to constitute a hazard here.

Yours faithfully,
E. S. LEATHAM-GREEN
(Assistant Keeper),
University Archives,
University of Cambridge,
West Road, Cambridge,
January 11.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 19 1885

Lima was one of the last outposts of Spanish power in America: it was not until 1886 that the last Spanish troops had left the country.

THE SPANIARDS IN PERU

FOUNDING "CITY OF KINGS"

From Our Lima Correspondent

Four hundred years ago Francisco Pizarro, swineherd, soldier of fortune, and conquistador, decided to build the capital of the newly conquered State of Peru on a barren site guarded by steep mountains...

Francisco planned his city on a large scale, well knowing that the wealth of the new land would attract adventurers from Spain. His action was justified, as the tales of riches which his brother, Hernando, took back to Europe soon brought Spaniards flocking to Peru. Besides the loyal Hernando, however, the conquistador was burdened with two brothers whose greed outran their fraternal feelings. In 1536 Juan and Gonzalo Pizarro, in company with one Diego Almagro, led a revolt against their brother which was crushed after much bloodshed. The defeat ranked with the rebels, who lurked in Lima, and on June 26, 1541, a band of assassins attacked Francisco in the open arcade of his palace. He fell, making the sign of the Cross in his own blood as he died, and the way lay open for Spanish dominion.

Indeed even before the murder of Pizarro Spain had decided to annex the country. In 1540 Vasco de Castro was sent out with orders to claim Peru in the name of his Catholic Majesty who was also the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. On his arrival at Quito de Castro learned that the conquistador was dead, and at once declared his authority to take over Peru for the King of Spain. The intendant Gonzalo and the son of the rebel Almagro promptly opposed the Spanish annexation. Almagro was defeated and executed, and Gonzalo was persuaded to retire peacefully to his estates.

THE FIRST VICEROY

Meanwhile tales of the sufferings of the Indians in Peru had reached Spain, and after a council at Valladolid a Viceroy was appointed with plenary powers to rule over South America from his seat in Lima, and a new code was drawn up in which the Indians were declared free subjects of the King. News of these laws travelled ahead of the Viceroy, to the indignation of the Spaniards in Peru, who induced Gonzalo to emerge from his country retreat and, like Ginepro, to lead a force against the invader. His task was made easier by the unpopularity of the Viceroy, Blasco Nuñez Vela, whose men deserted to the rebels in large numbers. Moreover, by imprisoning de Castro and murdering an officer in the Palace, the Viceroy drew upon himself the displeasure of the *Audiencia Real* in Panama, which... had him sent under guard to Spain...

After this inauspicious beginning of the viceregal régime the mother country sent Pedro de la Gasca, an astute priest, to straighten out the affairs of Peru. By subtlety and soft words Gasca had succeeded in drawing most of Gonzalo's supporters to his banner by the time he reached Lima. After consolidating his position there the militant priest marched against Gonzalo, and the two armies came face to face at Cusco. Gasca's victory there was bloodless...

In 1548 Gasca returned to Lima, and the viceregal period, which was to last for 280 years, was really inaugurated. Lima became the first city of Spanish America, the recipient of all the wealth which poured from the silver mines. Her Viceroy was the greatest man on the continent, the sole ruler of millions of subjects...

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Bikini and blue genes

Radio Bikini (Channel 4) broadcast from the world's most famous atoll in the brief interlude between the explosion of its inhabitants and the extinction of its habitability.

This propaganda machine reassured a war-weary America that no harm would befall the military personnel preparing for Operation Crossroads. The radio was active but no one had been warned about radioactivity.

Forty years on, two old men added a postscript: the Bikinian chief told how the first American to land claimed to be the most powerful man in the world; and a sometime USN rating described being ordered onto the target ships within hours of the second atomic bomb. The former is still waiting to be allowed home to die; the latter is already dead.

Not the least remarkable image of this documentary collage was that of a jolly tar mugging away while a Geiger counter buzzed and crackled over his uniform. The killer punch was kept until the end, when the camera panned back from the second interviewee's face to show his wheelchair, his lack of legs, his left hand puffed up like a pantomime giant's. The awesome beauty of the explosions — not even Busby Berkeley could have managed it better — finally found its human counterpart.

A wayward, ultimately fooling *Horizon* (BBC2) revealed that scientists researching the hereditary aspect of manic-depressive disorders believe they may have isolated the gene responsible, at the tip of chromosome 11. Science was then jettisoned in favour of human interest, with Churchill, Schumann and Robert Lowell (but not, oddly, Coleridge) being adduced as the links between genius and madness.

The good news is that manic depression may be beneficial. A survey shows that more than 50 per cent of British poets suffer from the condition. Well, well.

In a dancehall somewhere in America, a venerable blues singer rasped: "Mah momma haddem/Now Ah goddem too" — thus proving the blue-genes theory to the satisfaction of a sagely nodding shrink. But even this was preferable to the sight of one of his colleagues vomiting jargon in order to express banalities.

Chromosome 11, where are you?

Martin Cropper

GALLERIES

Young Turner:
Early work to
1800
Tate Gallery

Andrew Mansfield
Anthony Reynolds
Gallery

Hunter Collection
of 20th century
Masters
Courtauld Institute
Galleries

At the Tate until March 20, Young Turner is a delightful but half-hearted ruse. It is the first of a series of small exhibitions aimed to entice people back to assess Turner's work, now that the future over the architecture of the Clore Gallery has died down.

The exhibition, like the permanent display, is a bold selection from Turner's mountainous oeuvre, bravely attempting to give an impression of the artist's ambition and range. Even this partial and highly belated honouring of Turner's will makes the gaping unevenness of the work virtually impossible to hide.

Ironically there are regrettably fewer examples of heavy handed draughtsmanship in the output chosen from the 1790s than in the later work. Figures are only to be seen in the diminutive form which Bonington adopted later so successfully and Sandby amongst others had used before. In the dim sanctum of the Watercolour Room there is a steady diet of landscapes, interrupted by the occasional architectural drawing, and it is possible to forget the blaze of indignation against the lack of grandeur in setting and the anaemic colour of the gallery walls.

Some very ordinary work, like the "Interior of Christ



Strict rules clash with unruly pantheism: Caernarvon Castle, North Wales, 1799-1800 (detail), an early work by J.M.W. Turner, which is on show at the Tate Gallery until March 20

Church and A Mountain View" (thought to be Cader Idris) in the Hereford Court Sketchbook, may topple Turner from his place amongst the gods, but this exhibition does emphasize his precocious rise. He was an Associate Member of the Royal Academy at the age of 23. Before the turn of the century and his 26th year he had been employed by some of the most discerning patrons of the day and there are commissioned scenes of Fonthill Abbey, Harewood and Stourhead to prove it.

Though he was primarily working in watercolours, he was open to diverse influences. The Welsh pictures indicate the promise of the years to come. "Caernarvon Castle, North Wales 1799-1800" reveals a healthy clash

between the strict European rules of landscape painting, as expressed by Claude, and unruly nationalistic pantheism. He carves this around Edward's battles against the Welsh. In "Looking down a deep valley towards Snowdon, with an army on the march 1799-1800" the phalanxes of soldiers enter the painting but, as in Altdorfer's battle scenes, men's quarrels are totally dwarfed by the magnitude of nature. Though the colours on this faded and damaged watercolour are muted, there are clear signs of the future swirling grandeur.

Considerable claims have been made for the young English painter Andrew Mansfield (at the Anthony Reynolds Gallery, 37 Cowper Street, EC2 until February 7).

In his present series of night sketches he escapes from the label of "landscape painter", which he always rejected, to find the ideal space for posing questions. The random scattering of stars also emphasizes his links with Jackson Pollock and other American painters.

He has Guston's awkwardness. In several of his recent paintings he has mixed strips of night sky with crude rough, scientific signs. He appears to be searching for equations and solutions of grand simplicity in the manner of the metaphysical poets and other mathematicians and philosophers of the 16th and 17th century.

Though his most majestic images like "Pulkovo" (named after the Russian observatory), do stick in the

memory, he has not satisfactorily brought the ideas and execution together. He attempts to give a sense of perspective with rows of Lilliputian lights along the bottom of the canvas, but this exaggerates the cheap science fiction element rather than inducing contemplation. The mind is caught by the haunting imagery, but there is not enough there to set it free.

The main interest of the Hunter Collection (on view at the Courtauld until May 3) is as a reflection of the "taste" of post-war Britain. Most of Alastair Hunter's key purchases bequeathed to the Courtauld were made in the five or six years immediately after the World War Two or in the ten

years preceding his death in 1983. He was a distinguished Harley Street doctor and buyer for the Contemporary Art Society. As a collector he should not be judged merely by the Courtauld paintings, as several of the most important paintings were given to the Fitzwilliam including Picasso's "Bust of a Woman", 1910.

With the exception of a couple of Picasso etchings and a few other minor pieces, the Hunter Collection at the Courtauld is devoted to British artists. Set alongside one of Britain's greatest collections of Modern art, this exhibition could have been planned to reaffirm Roger Fry's lament on English art: "Let us recognize straight away that ours is a minor school." There is no

escaping the repetitiveness of the Ivon Hitchens and dreaminess of the Prunella Cloughs. Even the Ben Nicholson "Painting", from 1937, lacks vitality.

There are two fine examples of John Hoyland's work, but for all of its virtues, "Downland", 1978, with its sickly colours and application of paint, highlights the problems of one strand of British painting, as it fought spasmodically to save itself from being totally derivative.

It is a seductive painting, but does not bear close scrutiny. At one point the canvas is badly contorted by the weight of paint. At times like these one can only resort to Fry's honesty.

Alastair Hicks

Barry Douglas (below) has just embarked on a series of BBC2 recitals. Richard Morrison talked to the prize-winning pianist



'Study your score away from the keyboard, or your fingers may make bad interpretative decisions for you'

Find your own rhythm

Winning one of the big piano-playing competitions — the Tchaikovsky in Russia, the Van Cliburn in America, the Leeds in Britain — has certain unerring similarities with winning the pools. You have come top in a lottery (you may, incidentally, be an excellent musician as well); you are an overnight celebrity; and you have the chance, if not to "spend, spend, spend", at least to play, play, play.

That is the greatest pitfall. Some competition winners, dazzled by the chance to pick up quick riches, play 150 or 200 concerts in a year — and are never heard of again. A list of winners over the last decade is not so much a "who's who" of the brightest young talent, usually more a question of "who he?"

Barry Douglas, the 27-year-old Ulsterman who in 1986 came from relative obscurity to win the Tchaikovsky Gold Medal (the first Westerner to win outright in Moscow since Van Cliburn himself), is aware of the dangers. Last year he played around 100 concerts and even that, he thinks, was too many. "I felt that if I went on like that, always playing the same works, I would go stale. The workload I accepted forced a lot of Russian and late-Romantic music on me.

used to play but have ignored for the last two years."

Fortified by the sobering experience of having been knocked out in the first round in 1982, Douglas approached the 1986 competition in what is surely the right spirit. "The best way is not to worry about what sort of playing a jury is supposed to favour. Play the way you believe in, and if something happens it's great; if it doesn't, so what? It doesn't mean a thing."

Having won, however, Douglas says he was initially overwhelmed. "It was fun at first, watching five Japanese promoters battling it out to represent me. But I realize it has taken me a year to find my own rhythm of working again. It's a faster rhythm now, but at least I am back in the frame of mind I was in before the competition."

Overwhelmed or not, Douglas took one or two business decisions which showed (as his brilliantly muscular playing also does) that beneath the gentle Belfast burr and the diffident demeanour lies a determined personality, possibly toughened by the difficult years between leaving the Royal College of Music and winning in Moscow. Within days of his victory he had changed his agent (a move which unfortunately drew much comment in the musical press).

Soon after, despite some misgivings about being "packaged", he signed a contract with RCA. A recording of the Tchaikovsky First Piano Concerto, almost inevitably, has already been

rushed out, along with Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Brahms's *F minor Quintet* was released last month, and the Beethoven "Hammerklavier" and Op 109 sonatas will follow.

There have been several TV documentaries (and a series of five televised piano recitals, currently being shown on BBC2 on Monday evenings), formidable periods of touring, and even a part (portraying himself) in the new John Schlesinger film *Madame Sousatzka*.

Where Douglas's talent came from is, he says, a mystery. "My parents were music-loving people, but they didn't play anything, and they were worried, rightly, about the whole music business." Possibly the fact that the 16-year-old Barry used to rise at six in the morning to practise, and filled the rest of his leisure time with playing cello and clarinet in Belfast youth orchestras and with conducting church choirs, convinced them that he was not destined for banking.

He still practises fanatically: "I miss a single day's practice it is enough to make a difference to a concert — not so much that anyone else would notice, but enough to affect my own fulfilment." He also places great emphasis on studying scores away from the keyboard. "Otherwise your fingers will make interpretative decisions for you which may not be quite right. You should be certain of your artistic purpose, then work out how to do it."

Wasting time

ROCK

Heavy D
& The Boyz
Astoria

Even advance ticket holders were not spared an hour-long queue to get in, well after the doors had opened at 11.15pm. It was past 2am when the riotous rapper, Heavy D, and his three lean Boyz eventually took the stage. By this time the thinning crowd had simply run out of the energy needed to respond to D's demands for the ladies in the house to shout "Wheel!" and the men to grab the contents of their pockets and yell "Whoa-oh!"

Thus was the London debut by one of the smarter New York hip hop crews rendered into a dismal damp squib. The energetic dancing displays of G Whizz and Trouble T-Roy, the lightning cut-and-scratch antics of the DJ, Eddie F, and the deft doggerel declamations of the tubby MC, Heavy D, were all to no avail. After 25 minutes the foursome turned on its collective heel and

walked off to a deadening lack of applause.

Which was a pity, given the pleasantly upbeat qualities displayed in the few numbers which they did perform. "Moneytrain", Mount Vernon was a resolute ode to their hometown district while "Mr Big Stuff" and "The Overweight Lover in the House" boasted a humorous touch rarely heard in the rapping of L.L. Cool J and all the other hard men of hip hop.

The event underlined how rap performance, which still remains so many of the trappings of spontaneous street theatre, depends for much of its success on the playful interaction between artist and audience. This has led to the spurious idea, more current among American artists than it is in this country, that the audience must work almost as hard as the band to make the event a success. In such a situation it seems especially unwise to herd people about, and then keep them waiting, to the point where they lose interest in what it was they came to see.

David Sinclair

Confident skill

CONCERT

Terra Nova
Purcell Room

This concert was like an unofficial extension of the Park Lane Group's Young Artists series just ended; the same venue, the same enterprise in the choice of music, the same youthful exponents.

It might be said that Terra Nova's name is a touch misleading, for apart from a brand new composition by Julian Johnson, *River*, here because it won the group's first Young Composers' Competition last autumn (I told you their choice of music was enterprising), the programme consisted, if not exactly of old favourites, of works by composers already well established.

To begin with, there was Paul Patterson's *Crescendos*, *Counterpoints*, Opus 38, already 10 years old. This remains one of Patterson's strongest works. Terra Nova's performance, confidently directed, as was the rest of the concert, by Neil Thomson, was as brilliant as it had to be in the outer movements, the 14 instruments accordingly but

hopelessly vying with each other for supremacy in the first, and taking their turns like true (British?) gentlemen in the last. In between, an uneasy yet static accord was effected through scrupulous attention to the balance of the mixed timbres.

As if to counterweight the naked drama of Patterson's work, the concert ended with Harrison Birtwistle's equally forceful *Carmen Arcadique Mechanicum Perpetuum* of 1978, where, typically, a slice of time is taken and set in a new context.

Between these works the composition by Jonathan Harvey's atmospheric, well varied *Song Offerings*, which the soprano Rebecca Lodge sang (and spoke) with telling confidence. It must have been a real fillip for her — and the other musicians — to have Philip Langridge sing on the same bill.

His performance of Elizabeth Lutyens's *And Suddenly It's Evening* made the work sound like the mid-20th-century lyrical classic it is, and he also parished Johnson's beautifully written and promising little work with some typically aristocratic singing.

Stephen Pettitt

Ed and David Mirvish present

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translated by Eric Korn

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OPENED JANUARY 1988

DESKTOP PUBLISHING

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

How to be your own editor

Since the mechanics of the printing process were invented, something immovable has stood between those who want to publish and those who want to read. The expertise to control such an exacting and usually urgent task as the production of printed pages naturally turned those who possessed it into members of a craft guild.

The constituency and prerogatives of these organizations were as important to the medieval stationer as they are today for the modern member of the National Graphical Association or his or her new equivalent, the computer systems manager.

Desktop publishing technology — DTP — is remarkable for many things, but its most significant virtue is that it destroys, once and for all, the craft skills of the publishing process.

It is no longer necessary to belong to a particular union or to possess a certain kind of typographic or technological aptitude to produce type and headlines to fill professional standards.

This aspect of DTP has fundamental implications for everyone whose work involves the production of printed material, yet it is widely misunderstood and taken to mean that DTP actually reduces the level of experience required in publishing.

The truth, as many early DTP users have discovered, is the opposite. By destroying the bulk of the mechanical skills of publishing and transferring those that remain to the editorial, "intellectual" side of the process, DTP demands far more of those who use it than was ever required of individuals working in the tightly-demarcated methodologies of the conventional printing production cycle.

The successful user of DTP, whether he or she writes business reports, books or national newspapers, must often be writer, sub-editor, compositor and print-room manager rolled into one.

In an industry which traditionally obscures such matters as control and respon-



Computer technology has probably advanced printing more this decade than in the five centuries since Johann Gutenberg's time. Now, says a special correspondent, the skill is more accessible than ever.

ability, this can be a worrying development for some, which is one reason the introduction of DTP has, to date, been piecemeal and unpredictable.

It can be hard to graft such revolutionary equipment and working methods on to existing organizations, and the end results, without proper planning, can be far less satisfactory than those gained through using conventional techniques.

Today on pages 31 to 34, a new section, Technology, expanding the horizons of our long-running Tuesday computer pages, looks at discoveries that will murder noise, and at industry's response to the DTP revolution.

The computer business is oblivious to this kind of professional agonizing, however. It loves DTP, spends millions advertising and developing it each year, and looks forward to a day when virtually everyone is publishing something.

None of this enthusiasm was apparent two years ago when Apple, to much industry scorn, was busy pioneering DTP. To other manufacturers, it was an unproven entity which would probably turn out to be a quickly forgotten fad, an attitude for which Apple must be deeply appreciative, since it gave the company the chance to forge a lead in the field.

which it still possesses today, and helped restore its diminishing market success.

It was the Apple Macintosh which first made DTP a possibility. Early Macs were under-powered and short on software, but they did have something revolutionary: a high-resolution screen which represented type and graphics almost exactly as they would print.

With a page make-up program, a headline, story or graphic could be moved around the page much as it could using a manual cut-and-paste process.

The second Apple innovation was a laser printer which could print standard industry typefaces to the precision normally associated with typesetting, though the laser resolution was only a quarter of most typesetters.

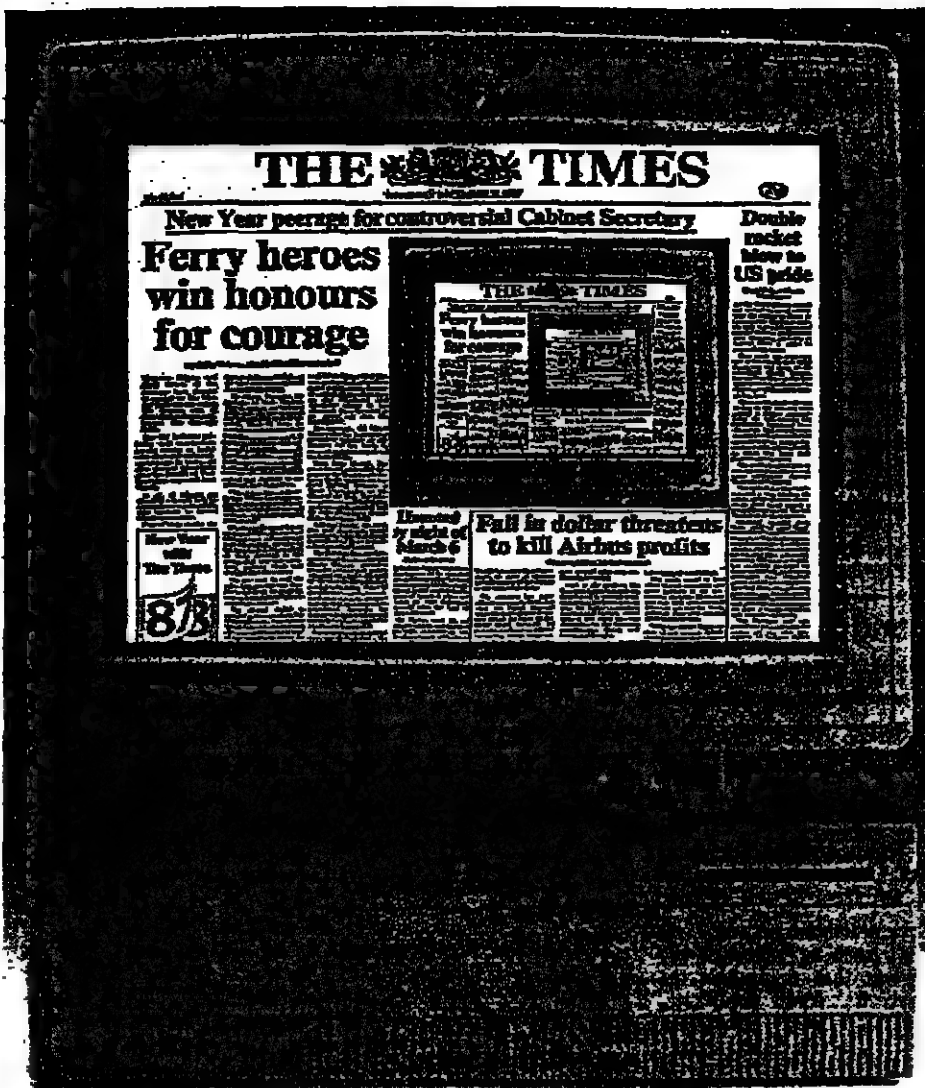
Nevertheless, for about 4p a page, the laser printer could be used as an alternative to traditional typesetting, and one which was a fraction of the price.

Today, many newsletters, small magazines and newspapers are produced in this way with little noticeable loss in quality for those publishers who have mastered the medium. Those who needed proper typesetting could simply proof on their laser, then have the master run off through a compatible typesetter by a typesetting bureau.

DTP restored Apple's falling financial fortunes and turned the Macintosh from a novelty machine into a much-coveted icon for creative professionals.

Today, the computer remains one of the most expensive on the market when most of its rivals are being discounted heavily, one sign of the company's continuing dominance of the DTP market.

A year after DTP was launched, it was apparent to rival companies that their inertia in the field was costing them money. IBM invested heavily in DTP development, eventually adopting PostScript, the same DTP language used by Apple, as its favoured solution. The popular make-up program PageMaker now runs on both



As prices for desktop publishing systems fall, graphics, such as the above, can be easily produced. The computer cannot replace the need for good design.

Macintoshes and PC machines.

The British manufacturer, Apricot, was one of the first to sell a DTP bundle of software, computer and printer, in its case a rebadged Apple LaserWriter, and recently Atari entered the market with a £2,500 bargain basement system.

The leader in the field of professional publishing, Quark XPress which runs on the Macintosh, now offers tiny increments in typesize and leading which would not normally be available through a typesetting front end, and can also crop, resize, and change

the tone and contrast of photographs on screen.

It is designed for the top end of the market, driving PostScript-compatible typesetters such as the Linotronic 300 and 500 which start in price around the £42,000 mark, the software costs £695 and is one of the more expensive DTP packages available.

If the DTP pundits are proved right, most businesses will, in the 1990s, become their own publishers of office documents from brochures to expenses forms. Intelligent micros running top-range page makeup software will replace the big publishing systems in

place today, and cheap systems will eventually spawn an outburst of community publishing to rival the scandal sheets of the 18th century.

Johann Gutenberg's first piece of metal type and Mergenthaler's earliest Linotype machine were separated by five centuries. The first slow and insubstantial version of PageMaker, limited to a few A4 pages, and the latest incarnation of XPress, which can produce newspaper pages up to 4ft square in size with pictures in place, appeared within two years of each other, and there is no sign that the pace of development is slowing.

Naturally, this hypothetical business has its own range of self-generated stationery — invoice forms, company letter-head, business cards and

Big help for small business

Desktop publishing has considerable potential for the small business community. It can help reduce costs and increase control for those who use print as an incidental part of their businesses, but it has also encouraged entrepreneurs to use DTP equipment as the focal point of their ventures.

Desktop publishing is especially cost-effective when documents and print runs are short. This makes it particularly attractive to a new kind of miniature publishing company, existing happily on jobs which larger companies find too small to be profitable.

One partner in such a micro-publishing venture might be a potential newsletter publisher, who aims to sell valuable information at a high price to a small and carefully-selected clientele.

His role would be to spend two days a week in the production of his weekly bulletin, writing and researching for the other three.

The expensive DTP equipment would be standing idle for those three days were it not for the other partner. He has small advertisements offering his services in professional writing and printing of curriculum vitae for the ambitious and upwardly-mobile.

Should the demand for their combined efforts exceed the ability of their equipment to cope, they could buy some more hardware and take up any slack by offering a service to typeset documents directly from computer floppy discs supplied by their customers.

Where no editorial input is necessary, the computer can be left effectively to its own devices, earning money without any great need for human intervention.

Further expansion could be into any number of small-run printing operations — menus for the local restaurants, price lists for the start-up mail order establishment next door, or by-election leaflets for local political parties.

Naturally, this hypothetical business has its own range of self-generated stationery — invoice forms, company letter-head, business cards and

publicity material. The artwork for its magazine advertising is written, designed and printed in-house, so that changes can be made quickly and cheaply.

The company accounts are computerized, using software that works on the same computer that runs the DTP bureau.

The printed word has always had a head start in credibility. All other things being equal, a professional-looking job will be taken more seriously than something that looks like the result of a kitchen-table operation.

Desktop publishing reduces the investment required to become a publisher but perhaps more importantly, in time and effort. Learning the fundamentals of a typical DTP setup takes a matter of weeks, and there are plenty of training services available.

Mastering the complexities of the traditional typesetting and printing industries takes months or years.

Now that it is an easy to become a publisher, there are two main brakes on the spread of specialist niche publishing operations. One is the imagination of the entrepreneurs who are setting them up.

Very small-scale publishing is a largely uncharted path. There are no role models to emulate, and no comforting statistics on the size of the untapped market. The other is the wariness of banks and other financial institutions for any new kind of venture, especially one which involves high technology.

In the absence of healthy precedents, it is difficult to convince backers of the chances that the business will succeed.

Predictably, the major marketing efforts from DTP equipment manufacturers have been towards the corporate markets which have provided the most profitable customers for other kinds of computing power. Perhaps in the long term they would do better to promote innovative applications for their wares.

Simon Craven

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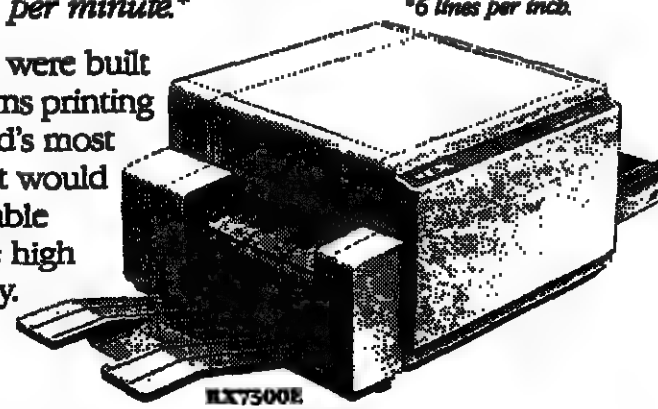
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Joys and dramas of a breakthrough

Colour magazines can be among the most expensive publications produced by the publishing industry, writes a special correspondent. The cost of designing pages and setting complex typography usually runs into thousands of pounds and can take many months before a single issue is printed.

High-level desktop publishing technology can change the budgets and time-scales of colour publications greatly, as a publisher discovered when asked to launch ComputerLand magazine, a European edition of a US title run for the ComputerLand network of computer stores.

From the outset, it was decided to use personal computers for writing and page make-up only if full professional quality could be guaranteed.

The end result, which was launched earlier this month, is a colour magazine typeset to the highest specifications, and betraying no sign that it was produced using micros.

The overheads tell a different story, however. Full typesetting costs per page were £8, compared with as much as £80 being paid by some companies that still use rekeyed typesetting and manual cut and paste.

Dummy pages were produced using laser printer output, which gives an accurate indication of the final result for only 4p a page. The main design considerations of the title were fixed during two

weekends working to the laser printer, where normally they would take weeks of waiting for typesetting revisions to shuttle to and from outside houses.

The final pages of the 36-page first issue were designed, edited and typeset in the space of a week, bringing the total design and typesetting bill of the magazine to less than £350.

Produced conventionally, the setting costs alone would have been far greater, the process would have involved several more people and the

Euston to be rushed to the printer the next morning. (Euston Red Star's inability to find clearly marked typesetting that day turned out to be the biggest technical difficulty.)

The experience converted several sceptics to DTP devotees. The publisher saw the title appear on deadline despite a tight schedule, and it was below production budget. The designer, who had little experience of working with computers, was able to play with A4 page schemes at full size on a new 19-in. colour monitor launched by SMS, an

The fewer human hands involved in the race from manuscript to finished page, the more errors are likely to find their way into print. It requires a conscious effort on the part of an editorial team to print out proofs for reading — on trains, in quiet moments of the office, anywhere — just to see what pages will really look like.

Producing any publication using DTP equipment is a one-way trip: if you make it successfully, the return journey to conventional techniques is one to be contemplated only with the greatest reluctance.

There is still a long way to go in the professional publishing field to give editorial staff the typographic skills they need to take over fully from compositors. And in the UK, many designers and artists, unlike their counterparts in the US, consider computers a threat to their livelihood, not a new tool which should become an integral part of their pen box.

The number of professional publishing computer artists in Britain can be counted on two hands; in the US, and in France, they are part of a flourishing new profession.

But, these caveats apart, the lesson is that anyone who publishes some kind of printed material and ignores desktop publishing is overlooking technology which, implemented correctly, saves time and money.



The fewer hands involved, the more likely the errors

time scale would have been quadrupled.

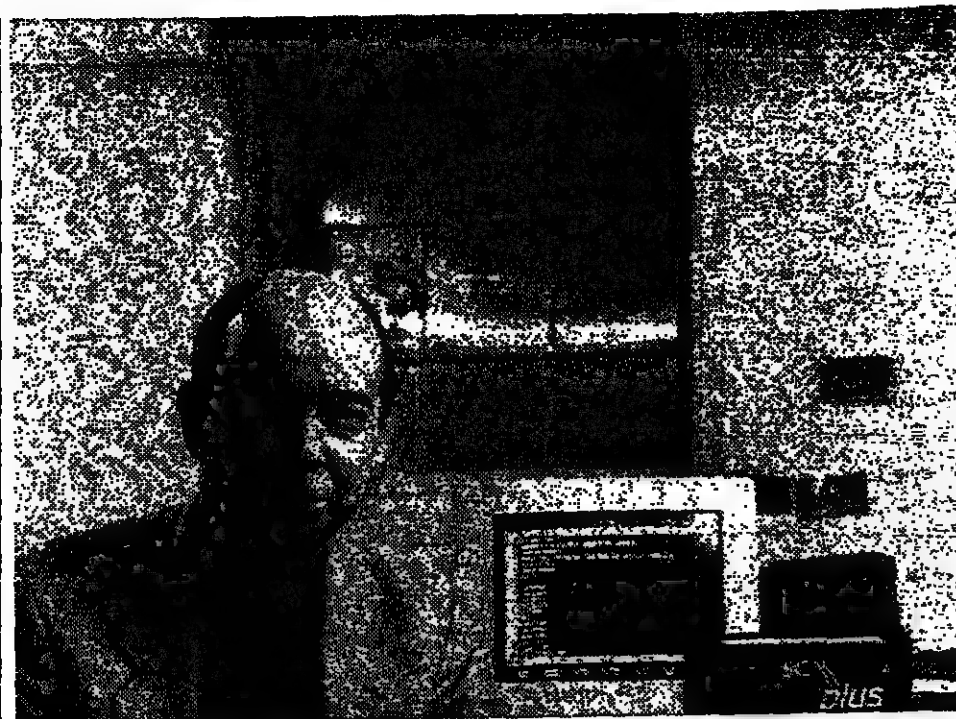
In order to ensure that typesetting was turned around quickly and accurately, a phone link was established with a specialist typesetting company 400 miles away in Liverpool which runs a 24-hour typesetting capture service. There, laser-proofed pages were output on a £50,000 typesetter with all copy, headlines and graphics in place, and with registration marks and spot-colour separations for the printer.

The bureau's experience of setting full pages from the Macintosh enabled the whole magazine to be turned around in a single day, the last pages going on a midnight train to

American company SMS, which enables spot-colour schemes to be judged to life, and shows digitized mono pictures as they are to appear.

A front-page photograph of Lord Young was retouched and set through the system.

Several lessons were learned while launching the magazine. One was that computers do not solve human problems. High-level DTP demands high-level skills. Good magazine journalists who had no knowledge of the Apple Macintosh system and software involved were of little use. Desktop publishing also tends to lead to a lack of proof-reading and tight typographic control which can show in the end product.



The communications officer for the Diocese of Chichester, the Reverend Will Pratt, produces a newsletter and church magazine on his desktop publishing system

One of the most surprising aspects of desktop publishing is the range of people who end up having a use for the technology — not all of whom seem much to do with publishing per se.

Apple Computer, for example, has found its desktop publishing technology put to use in everything from the Coca-Cola art department to the Ministry of Defence.

At Coca-Cola, the company uses an Apple Macintosh desktop publishing system to reproduce electronically the intricate corporate logo for presentations and newsletters.

Says Coca-Cola's Northern European marketing information manager, Derek Fowler: "We do a tremendous number of graphic presentations in Great Britain. We also do a newsletter about marketing activities and we include our

And The Word was by desktop

logo digitized at the top of the newsletter."

The Ministry of Defence uses its system to design a huge variety of government forms. The MoD uses 10,000 catalogue forms which are controlled and printed at one source, while some 200,000 other forms are used within various parts of the ministry.

The MoD has been trying to redesign clearer forms in the last few years with desktop publishing to do it. "Our forms can be anything from standard one-page forms, to booklets, to

graph-checking pads, aircraft check sheets or safety stickers" explains the MoD's Ian Backle.

Hewlett-Packard, whose Laserjet family of computer laser printers out-sells any other make of laser printer in the US and the UK, has recently started selling its own desktop publishing offering to complement the laser printer.

One recent new user of this system is the Rev Will Pratt, communications officer for the Diocese of Chichester. He produces the Chichester Diocese Newsletter on it and recently produced the first issue of a 24-page church magazine which he has launched as a commercial venture with advertising and a first issue print run of 10,000 issues.

Geoff Wheelwright

Make a start at home

The recent appearance of much more powerful home computers has opened up the possibility of desktop publishing, even in the home, writes Simon Craven.

The IBM-compatible Amstrad range is an obvious choice for such work, as it can run the same software intended for professional use, but machines like the Atari ST and Commodore Amiga are even more suitable, with their more powerful processors and better screen displays.

Applications for domestic desktop publishing equipment may seem limited, but that has not prevented a number of software houses from introducing low-cost packages.

Image scanners are too expensive at present, as are laser printers.

Nevertheless, a surprisingly high quality of printed output can be achieved with the present generation of 24-pin dot matrix printers, which are now available for a few hundred pounds.

The main loss of performance associated with using a

Slightly frivolous to work at home

dot-matrix printer is its speed. Each page may take half an hour to print instead of a few seconds, but in a domestic context this is much more acceptable than it would be at work.

Applications for DTP in the home are less obvious, but 10 years ago it would have seemed unlikely that home word processing would ever be a serious market.

Home DTP can be seen as an extension of word processing in this context. Many enthusiasts use DTP to produce their own personalized stationery, or to create unusual greeting cards.

The inability to generate colour artwork is a considerable brake on this kind of activity at present, but the next few years can be expected to bring colour even to low-cost DTP.

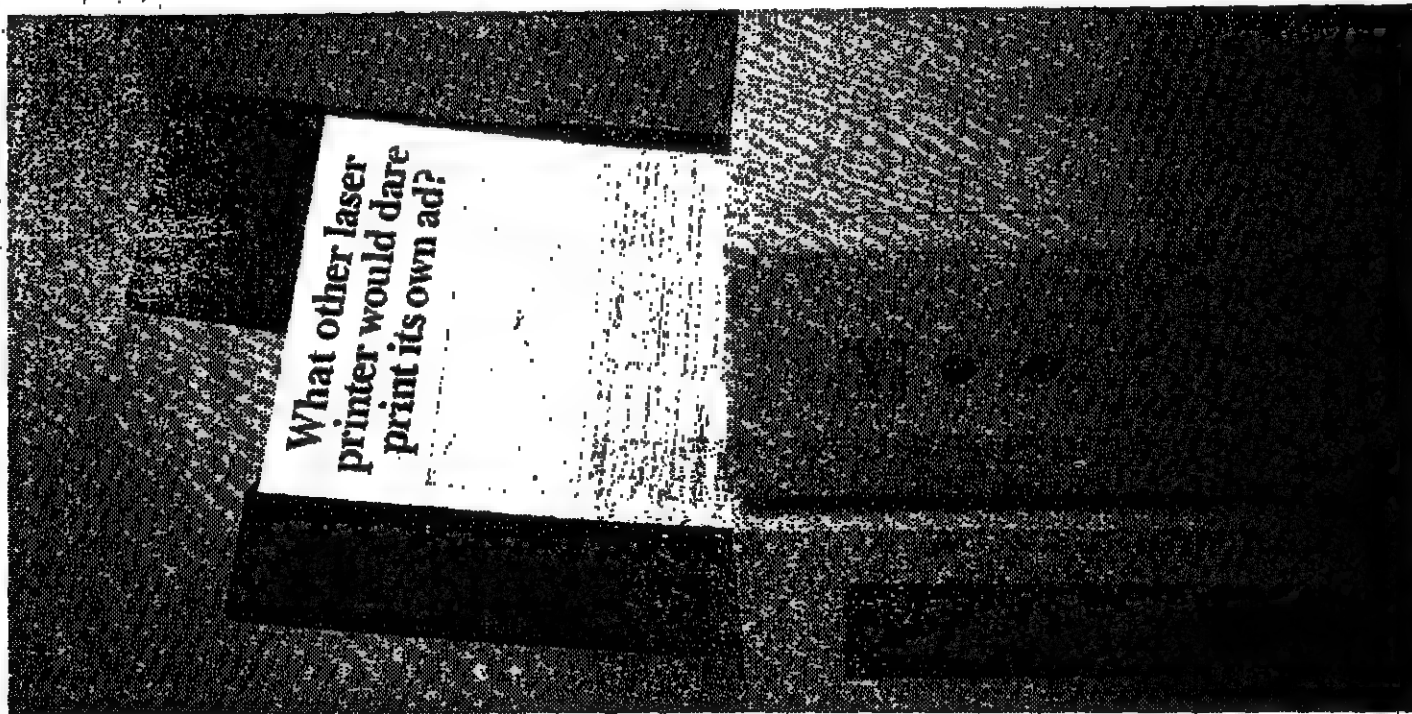
In fact, the domestic user may have an edge over his commercial counterpart in this respect, as colour dot-matrix printers are much less difficult to make than colour laser printers.

Home DTP tends to place a greater emphasis on graphics than the office variety, software often being supplied with libraries of clip art which can be incorporated into documents. This has given birth to an off-beat application in the shape of custom T-shirt production.

Changing the printer ribbon for a special type enables the user to make iron-on transfers of his favourite images.

Desktop publishing at home is a slightly frivolous affair, but then so are most home computer applications.

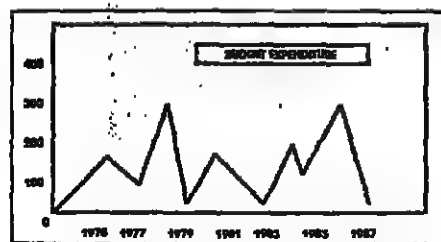
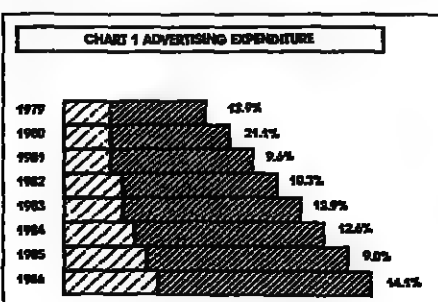
What other laser printer would dare print its own ad?



After one look at the image of desktop publishing we decided to clean it up.

The result is the new VT600 laser printer.

Its 600 dot per inch resolution is four times that of conventional 300 dpi laser printers. That's why it's proud to print its own ad. After all, it has a lot to boast about.



In every size of type, including the smallest, the VT600 will give your work the edge. A crisper, cleaner edge.

Camera ready artwork, including graphics, is produced on plain paper.

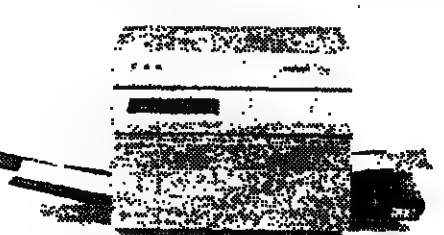
And because the higher quality output means more work can be typeset in the office, you'll save money.

The VT600 is PostScript® com-

patible, and links directly to the IBM-PC™ and the Apple Macintosh. Typefaces can be selected from our growing library of PostScript compatible type. Up to 150 type faces can be stored on the VT600.

So the ragged character has had its day.

Enter the VT600, and a new image for desktop publishing.



AM Varsity

Please send me further details on the VT600 laser printer.

Name _____ Company _____

Address _____ Postcode _____ Tel. _____

Complete and return to AM Varsity Ltd., Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP2 7ET

AM VARSITY LTD., MAYLANDS AVENUE, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS HP2 7ET TEL: 0442-42251 LONDON BRANCH: 01-263 6341 SALFORD BRANCH: 051-737 2400 DUBLIN BRANCH: 001-779825 IBM-PC IS THE TRADEMARK OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP. APPLE IS THE TRADEMARK OF APPLE COMPUTER INC. MACINTOSH IS THE TRADEMARK OF APPLE COMPUTER INC. POSTSCRIPT IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF ADOBE SYSTEMS INC. PRINTED ON THE VT600

WHY RE-KEY?



The essential ingredient in successful desktop publishing must be the ability to accept data from any source.

The written word is now being captured throughout the world on magnetic media and the days of producing hard copy from the typewriter for onward reproduction have almost come to an end.

However, the incompatibility of the many varied types of magnetic media means that much of this data is still having to be re-keyed for entry into the publishing system. This is time wasting, expensive and prone to error.

The answer is to have the ability to read any floppy disk or magnetic tape format from any system and convert the data to an appropriate form for the desktop publishing system.

InterMedia International, the world leaders in data conversion, produce a system which will read data from over 2000 different disk and magnetic tape formats and convert it for publishing. The InterMedia can operate as a stand alone or can be loaded into the user's own AT compatible micro.

Don't waste time — contact InterMedia today

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FOCUS

DESKTOP PUBLISHING/3

Printing revolution for professionals

The power and ease of use of desktop publishing computers are set to increase several-fold over the next few years. The computer industry sees DTP as a key element in its goal of placing PCs on every office desk during the 1990s.

In other words, if you can think of a tool for a computer which has enough potential buyers to make it a marketable proposition, then you can probably assume that the computer is capable of creating the software to do the job.

DTP needs faster and more powerful machines because the medium demands a visual interface — pages have to appear on screen as they are going to look when printed. This requires a lot of processing, particularly if the computer is driving a large, high-resolution colour screen.

The machines which can cope with this high level of demand are more like office workstations, than standard PCs. They are unlikely to be cheap compared with PCs, although even the Macintosh II is less costly than the average workstation.

Along with extra processing power, the new generation of machines are increasingly adept at what the computer industry calls "connectivity," which simply means the ability of different types of ma-

chine to talk intelligently to each other.

Rapid strides should be made this year in the use of photographs on PCs. A growing number of Mac programs can now handle photographs on screen and print them, through a typesetter, to professional standards. A program called Image Studio can even edit images: retouching unwanted areas of a photograph or combining elements of two pictures into a new image. Similar packages for the PC are expected this year.

Picture handling is important to DTP on several fronts. For companies that

anywhere in the world without the need to scan hard copy pages using expensive machinery.

In professional publishing, it promises to be a revolution as fundamental as the shift to direct input by journalists. Total pagination will mean that any print plant owning a PostScript compatible typesetter can output pages, or even direct printing plates, and publish a local edition of a title for little more than the mechanical costs of transmission and paper.

This breakthrough may also create the first generation of true, electronic newspapers.

Such a publication could conceivably be transmitted directly to home or office and printed on a cheap laser printer. Before going to bed, the subscriber

could indicate any areas of interest he would like included in his morning paper and the personalized edition would be printed at any time he specifies.

Dr Charles Geschke, one of the founders of the Adobe, recently described his ideal:

"One of my fantasies is to wake up in the morning and I will have my automated clipping service deliver me a sheaf of papers on my LaserWriter printer at home with exactly the kind of articles that I would be interested in."

The truly electronic newspaper at last

typeset their pages through bureaus from laser proofs, it means that pictures can be incorporated for little or no extra cost.

Of more importance, in the long term, is the ability to describe every element of the page electronically, with no need for any of the manual cut and paste of pictures which takes place even on today's most-advanced big systems.

Complete page handling — total pagination, to use the jargon — allows documents to be transmitted easily and cheaply to satellite print plants

Peter Lawrence, managing director of the weekly *Slough and Eton Observer*, is shown with the newspaper's DTP system, which can produce up to 10 pages a minute with a resolution of 600 dots an inch.

He said: "By using the direct-entry method of producing galley, work can be produced not only with more speed but also with more accuracy and at a lower cost per page"



Jim Grennell's set-up shows just how compact a print shop can be

Small print equals profit

The local jobbing printer has long made a good living servicing the simple printing needs of the community. This situation is in the process of change, however, for many of the jobs normally undertaken by such shops are being targeted by start-up desktop publishing operations.

This area of DTP application is already proving to be a good market for those seeking to start a new business, as well as being a profitable sideline for the dedicated computer hobbyists looking for ways to finance their hobby.

Their potential for success is mixed, though this observation is not based so much on the availability of work but more on the number of individuals that are, or are thinking of, entering the market-place.

With simple DTP systems being relatively cheap to buy, even with a laser printer, far too many people may try to enter the business. The type of work that is available, however, is immense, and much of it can be serviced by DTP-based operations more efficiently and cheaply than the traditional jobbing print shop. Not surprisingly, many small printers are also adding DTP facilities to their range of services so as not to lose too much of their business.

The investment in DTP may seem large for an individual, especially a dedicated hobbyist such as Jim Grennell of Linton. His system consists of four main elements, three of which are essential to entering the small-print business. Mr Grennell has a Macintosh SE with two Mbytes of memory, an Apple LaserWriter for the final output, and a scanner. In this case, the system is an S200C from Agfa. With these three systems, coupled to suitable software such as Pagemaker and Im-

age Studio, Mr Grennell can create, edit and format text and pages, digitize graphics and photographic images, and finally, mix them together.

The fourth element in his set-up is an Omicron printer, which can output special print effects such as printing in gold or silver. But there is a fifth element, which is, in practice, equally essential: the guillotine to cut the final print output to size.

Typical of the type of jobs Mr Grennell is already attracting are those that have made up some of the staple diet of the jobbing printer, such as visiting cards for local small-business proprietors, promotional leaflets for companies and individuals, small booklets and brochures for the same type of clients.

Work can come from a variety of strange areas, such as local musicians. The growth in electronic music, home recording and small recording studios has led to a growth in the number of self-produced cassettes. Promotional material and liners for these cassettes are proving an interesting business opportunity, especially as the DTP systems can mix photographs with text for little extra cost.

By comparison, processing photographs for traditional printing is relatively cheap. The key advantage of the DTP system over the jobbing printer is the ability to tackle the low-volume jobs. This is because the work involved in setting up a print job, always the most complex part, is more easily achieved, and at much lower costs, using a DTP system than the traditional print methods of transferring, hot metal setting, pasting up galley, or subcontracting the task to a third-party specialist typesetter.

High-tech in handwriting

Developments in business computing are always reflected, one way or another, in education. Desktop publishing is no different, yet education has different needs and priorities to business, and justifying the spending of large amounts of money can be difficult.

Strange as it may seem, DTP was already popular in primary and secondary schools before most business people knew what it meant. However, most of it was, and still is, done on low-end equipment — typically a BBC micro hooked to a nine-pin, dot-matrix printer.

This is likely to change, although exactly how is unclear. Many educationalists consider that students simply do not need the high quality demanded by business users — the end result is usually less important than the means of going about it.

Another argument is starting to appear, however. Mike Bostock, a computer adviser for the London Borough of Redbridge, explained: "The high-quality finish is a motivating factor."

"Children who have difficulty with handwriting, and are often ashamed of what they produce, can put together something that looks very good, which they can be proud of. It removes the barriers and allows them to be creative."

Computers are already being used extensively in both primary and secondary education for creative writing. By

bringing in the design element, DTP extends the creativity. And most pupils are using it to create newspapers, reports and project work, which means the document becomes the focus for research and the manipulation of information.

That takes it out of the narrow confines of computing or English studies and makes it an ideal cross-curriculum tool.

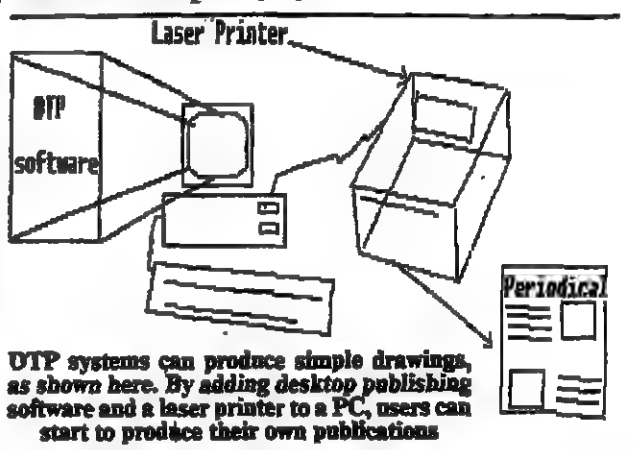
The biggest problem is funding. This is especially true as schools start to look at professional systems, such as the Apple Macintosh. Even with educational discounts, a complete Mac-based DTP system is very expensive, and many local authorities would have trouble justifying the cost.

Redbridge, which is in the third year of a four-year and £1 million purchasing programme, is now looking at the viability of putting one Macintosh into each of its schools.

The attractions for school administration departments are the same as those for business users — attractive, professional-looking documents at low cost, once the original investment has been recouped.

That's the kind of level at which DTP has had most impact in tertiary education. Its greatest contribution has been in time and cost saving for those involved in administration and publications.

Steve Mansfield



DTP systems can produce simple drawings, as shown here. By adding desktop publishing software and a laser printer to a PC, users can start to produce their own publications

You pronounce it "Wizzwig". It's a term experienced DTP's (desktop publishers) use for "What You See Is What You Get". In this case it's the new Compaq Deskpro 386/20, the most advanced personal computer in the world.

When it comes to desktop publishing, the Deskpro 386/20 is about the most wizz computer you could possibly wish to wig. We used it to construct this ad with some DTP software.

TO DTP OR NOT TO DTP?

You can't use any old computer to run a DTP system. Displaying a layout on screen takes a high resolution monitor. Producing pages of graphics and text makes heavy demands on the central microprocessor and storing thousands of pages of creative work needs huge amounts of disk space.

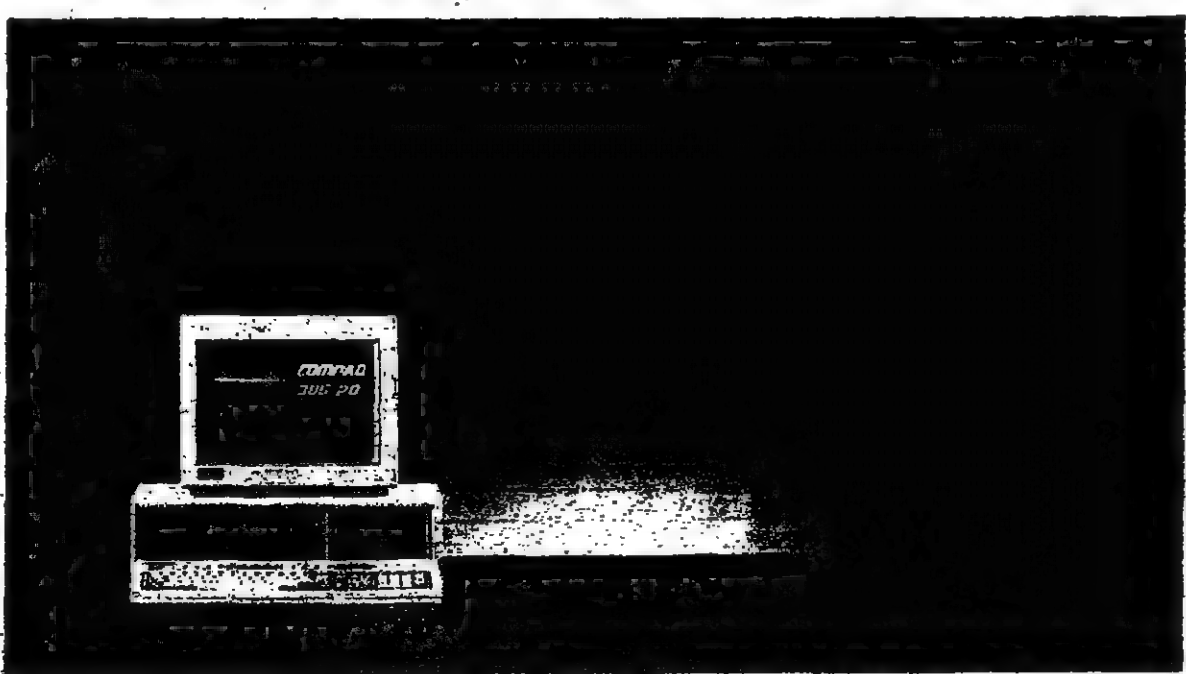
Use the Deskpro 386/20 and you're laughing. It's got masses more power than any other p.c. you can buy; it's compatible with all your industry standard equipment; and our new VGA Graphic System, two new monitors and a VGA board, ensures crystal clear graphics and text.

TECHNICAL BITS AND BYTES

Let us dazzle you with some figures. (If jargon makes your eyes glaze over you can skip

this paragraph.) The Deskpro 386/20 is a 32-Bit computer equipped with a 20-MHz 80386 microprocessor. Information flashes through its circuits in 32 bits at a time, up to 50% quicker than current 16-MHz machines.

There's extra power available in the form of an optional 20-MHz 80387 microprocessor and for even greater performance there's an optional



WYSIWYG.

Weitek Coprocessor. This p.c. sails through the kind of workloads previously only handled by mini-computers.

It's equipped with 1MB of RAM and a 20-MHz Memory Cache Controller that makes processing almost instantaneous. And its storage capacity is phenomenal. You have a choice between a 60, 130 or a 300-MB machine.

In other words the Deskpro 386/20 is to DTP what the jet engine was to flying.

WHY CHOOSE ANYCO?

As we intimated before, the great advantage of DeeTeePeeing with a Deskpro 386/20 is not only speed and power, but also the versatility you get from compatibility. What are we talking about? Choice.

of your Deskpro 386/20.

MICROSOFT WINDOWS

Many Deskpro 386/20 users are doing true multitasking, with applications software which is currently available. Using the Microsoft Windows/386 Presentation Manager they're designing their Valentine Cards at the same time as bringing out the Company Report.

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All you have to do now is clip the coupon and we'll swamp you with every last detail about the astonishing Deskpro 386/20. Alternatively, hurry round to a Compaq Authorised Dealer, and he'll have you DeeTeePeeing in less time than it takes to say Plunbrayenovetornichoboiainaibpei engleocnapiwlornibuev.

For further information fill in the coupon and send it to: Marketing Department T11, Compaq Computer Ltd, FREEPOST, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1BR. Or ring FREEPHONE 0800-444123, free of charge quoting reference T11

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c.£18,000**Early Partnership Prospects**

This is an opportunity for a recently qualified lawyer to gain experience working under the partner's supervision handling a mixture of commercial and residential conveyancing work. The position may suit a newly qualified person with good conveyancing articles. Early partnership prospects exist for the right candidate.

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We are a recently formed International Group of Companies involved in various construction related activities such as quantity surveying, project management and engineering services, together with non-construction related activities such as computers and printing.

Duties will include handling a wide range of commercial matters but particularly contractual matters, tort and property. Other duties will include assisting with contractual matters relating to mergers and acquisitions in the UK and overseas.

Remuneration package is dependent on experience but will be attractive and likely to exceed £25K.

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Group Company Secretary
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Woking c.£17K

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Making mortgages happen

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
Chief Executive and Clerk's Department**Senior Legal Executive**
(Post No. CE24) S02 £12,156-£12,882
(From 1 February 1988 £12,432-£13,173)**Principal Legal Executive**
(Post No. CE15) P02 £13,890-£15,162
(From 1 February 1988 £14,205-£15,507)

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Application form and job description available from the States Personnel Department, Cyril Le Marquand House, P.O. Box 600, The Parade, St. Helier, Jersey, C.I. Telephone 0534 79111 ext. 213. Closing date 16th February, 1988.

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TRUST/PROBATE

To £24K

For an assistant solicitor with up to three years' PQE and a sound academic background the opportunity has arisen to take on and extend the workload of a growing department in a medium-sized Central London practice.

CONVEYANCING

c. £25K

A progressive Central London practice wishes to recruit a young solicitor to handle a demanding caseload in mixed conveyancing with an emphasis on the commercial side.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

To £20K

An excellent opportunity exists in this respected Holborn practice for a recently-qualified solicitor to join its friendly and informal team specialising in company/commercial law, including some good quality Yellow Book work.

LITIGATION PARTNER

£ NEG

A progressive Central London practice wishes to appoint at partner level a solicitor of high calibre and proven ability to assume responsibility for high quality commercial litigation. An excellent salary package is available.

PLANNING

To £25K

A bright and enthusiastic young solicitor with one to three years' planning experience is sought by a medium-sized City practice with an enviable reputation in this field. There will be scope to become involved in all aspects of planning.

OUT OF LONDON

LITIGATION

To £20K

An experienced probate specialist is sought by this six partner Surrey practice, just outside London, for their existing buoyant Probate Department.

CONVEYANCING

£20-25K

This large commercial firm in Bucks has an exciting vacancy for an ambitious solicitor who wishes to progress in commercial conveyancing. Initially the balance will be almost equally residential/commercial but with a gradual increase in quality commercial work. Early partnership prospects.

INTERNATIONAL TAX

To £40K

Our Jersey client seeks a lawyer experienced in, or wishing to develop basic expertise in, International Tax work. Training offered. Several trips per annum to USA. Jersey residential status essential.

GENERAL PRACTICE

£ NEG

Small friendly practice in scenic West England needs a general practitioner interested in high quality work/lifestyle. Newly qualified lawyers welcome, mixed workload, excellent prospects.

RESIDENTIAL CONVEYANCER

£13-16K

Thriving practice, South East Midlands town, requires conveyancer for purely residential matters. Excellent quality workload, 2-3 years post qualification experience.

Law Personnel

Staff specialists to the legal profession worldwide
95 Aldwych, London WC2B 4JF. Tel: 01-242 1281
(unavailable after office hours)

TROWERS & HAMLINS

LITIGATION SOLICITOR

The continuing expansion of the Trowers & Hamblins Litigation Department presents an opportunity for an energetic and enthusiastic assistant solicitor to join the firm.

A wide and interesting variety of civil litigation work is offered, preferably to applicants with at least one year's litigation experience since qualification. Applications are also welcomed if you are newly qualified but have gained relevant experience during articles.

An attractive salary is reviewed twice per year, and is supplemented by a variety of benefits. Please send your curriculum vitae in confidence to:

Nicholas Hills
TROWERS & HAMLINS
5 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3RP.

Consulting Actuaries



Challenging Opportunities FOR Newly-Qualified Solicitors

Salaries £12-£15,000 p.a.

Bacon & Woodrow is a leading firm of consulting actuaries advising a wide range of prestigious clients on pensions, insurance and other financial matters. The Legal Department, in which the vacancies exist, is principally involved in the drafting of pension scheme documentation and the giving of tax and legal advice in all areas of occupational pensions to the Firm's Partners and their clients. This requires a thorough knowledge not only of pensions law and practice, but also of other relevant branches of the law e.g. employment, trusts and company.

Whatever the pensions practitioner's level of experience, the role is extremely demanding — but satisfying and financially rewarding. You would be expected to assimilate a complex new body of law to complement your present professional knowledge and to respond rapidly and positively to in-depth training and work experience. Once established, your salary would immediately reflect the importance of your role in the Firm's operations. The posts, based at our Epsom Office, call for solicitors admitted for 1 or 2 years who are not satisfied with anything other than the highest quality — this will be evidenced already by high academic achievement and a keen intellectual ambition — and who are seeking a rewarding long-term career outside the traditional fields of private practice.

Those who feel they can meet the challenge of these posts should write (with a c.v.) to:
A. A. Edwards, M.A. Solicitor,
BACON AND WOODROW

55 East Street, Epsom, Surrey KT17 1BE.
You can also ring him on Epsom 29600 if you would like to ask any questions about the posts.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS ALSO
APPEAR ON PAGES 37, 38, 39 & 40

MARRIOTT HARRISON BLOOM & NORRIS

We are a ten partner practice specialising in arbitration, commercial and entertainment work. Based in Central London with a fully operational Paris office. We are seeking three lawyers.

We require one solicitor with up to two years qualified experience to assist our Entertainment Department.

We also require an English or Scottish lawyer (willing to travel widely) with up to two years experience to assist our Arbitration Department.

Finally, we require a sound Commercial Litigator with at least five years qualified experience to work unsupervised.

Partnership prospects will be fully discussed at interview.

Applications should be sent with C.V. to:-

Pamela Collins
Marriott Harrison Bloom & Norris
34 Bedford Row,
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BOND PEARCE

Stimulating Opportunities in the Westcountry

We are one of the largest and most progressive legal firms in the Westcountry. Due to continuing expansion, we have urgent vacancies for ambitious young solicitors in our Plymouth and Exeter offices in the following departments:

PRIVATE CLIENT Vacancies exist for solicitors with particular experience in Agricultural and Estate Planning work, and in Probate and Trust Administration. In addition, we seek a highly motivated person to take charge of the private client department in our Exeter office.

COMPANY AND COMMERCIAL We seek solicitors with at least 2 or 3 years post qualifying experience, possessing a sound knowledge of company and commercial law. Successful applicants must have the ability to provide general and commercial advice.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY Commercial conveyancers are required with experience in all aspects of commercial property work including development and financing agreements.

In all cases, we are looking for applicants with personality, high academic ability and enthusiasm, to be involved in practice development. All vacancies offer excellent prospects, a challenging and stimulating workload, an attractive remuneration package, and high quality working conditions in attractive locations.

We also have vacancies in other departments. If you are interested, please call John Price on 0752 266633, or write to him at the address below:

Bond Pearce, 1 The Crescent, Plymouth PL1 3AE.

Bond Pearce is a member of the MS Group of independent legal practices.

WILDE SAPTE

Asset Finance Lawyer

We are seeking a young solicitor to join one of our groups of lawyers handling a wide range of asset finance and related matters including assisting our clients in the development of a variety of new banking and financial products. Candidates are likely to have at least 2 years relevant post-qualification experience, probably but not essentially gained with a City firm, be academically sound and capable of undertaking demanding and complex transactions with initiative and enthusiasm.

Salary and benefits are highly competitive and prospects are excellent.

Please write with full curriculum vitae, quoting ref: AF, to:

Philip Brown
Wilde Sapte
Queensbridge House
60 Upper Thames Street
London EC4V 3BD

COMPANY SECRETARY/ LEGAL ADVISER

The dual role of Company Secretary and Legal Adviser encompasses a diverse range of responsibilities making it an ideal opportunity for someone wishing to develop a legal career in industry and commerce.

Airship Industries is a rapidly expanding Company. Its fleet of airships has a wide range of applications in both the commercial and military sectors. Last year the Company was awarded a major defence contract by the US Navy, resulting in a period of further expansion and development.

Reporting directly to the Managing Director you will provide legal advice to all divisions of Airship Industries both in the UK and overseas. You will be involved in the vetting, negotiating and drafting of all contracts and will have responsibility for the complex insurance requirements resulting from our involvement in aviation.

In addition to a general background in commercial law, you will require basic knowledge of US company law to enable you to deal effectively with our US business interests.

In your capacity as Company Secretary it will be necessary to be familiar with Stock Exchange requirements and Intellectual Property.

To join this highly successful and fast growing organisation you will need to be a Solicitor or Barrister with at least 5 years' post qualification experience and the ability to communicate effectively at the highest levels of management.

In return you will be rewarded with an attractive salary and benefits package. If you are ready to take on this challenging position please write, enclosing full cv to: The Personnel Department, Airship Industries, Bond House, 347-353 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4HS.



TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle

A not-so-bonnie Clyde

TELEVISION CHOICE

● Launching a season of contemporary dramas from Scotland, Down Where the Buffalo Go (BBC1, 9.30pm) is a sombre piece by Peter McDougall about two men with marital difficulties. Harvey Keitel, familiar from the films of Martin Scorsese but making his British television debut, plays Carl, an American serviceman stationed at the Polar submarine base on the Clyde. He is married to a local girl, has a young daughter and is content to stay in Scotland. His wife, on the other hand, would like to up sticks for the United States. But since their marriage is disintegrating ("We don't talk any more", she says, "we're dead") this ambition seems unlikely to be realized. More so at the best of times, he perhaps has some reason to be moose about Carl's brother-in-law Willie (Andrew Byatt) is already separated from his wife and forced to bribe her with fitted carpets so that he can see his kids. To add to his troubles, Willie is made redundant from his job at the foundry and for the first time must face up to life on the dole. There is also the prospect of no more money for fitted carpets. The miserable pair tramp the dreary streets of Greenock, moom round bars, mumble monosyllables and stare out over the Clyde. In keeping with their mood, it is either pouring with rain or looks as if it is just about to. No wonder Carl's missus wants to get out of the place. Making a little dialogue go a long way, McDougall spins out the words by inserting pregnant pauses at every opportunity. Unfortunately, he is not well served by the sound department and when the characters do get a conversation going, it is all too often drowned in background noise. The two leading actors are excellent and there are full marks, too, for the camera-man, Alex Scott, for so graphically evoking the bleak wasteland against which the drama unfolds. As for the drama itself, I suspect that McDougall is using the central characters to say something oblique about American nuclear defence and the Scottish economy. If so, the point is taken; but if Carl and Willie are taken at their face value, rather than as political metaphors, their predicament is not easy to get involved with.



Harvey Keitel who plays the US Polar submarine base on the Clyde. He is married to a local girl, has a young daughter and is content to stay in Scotland. His wife, on the other hand, would like to up sticks for the United States. But since their marriage is disintegrating ("We don't talk any more", she says, "we're dead") this ambition seems unlikely to be realized.

● Sir Thomas Sopwith - 100 Years (BBC2, 3.00pm) is a tribute to the aviation pioneer who celebrated his 100th birthday yesterday. Presented by Raymond Baxter, the programme includes coverage of a celebration lunch at Brooklands, the Surrey motor racing circuit which was then centre of the British aircraft industry, and a flypast over Sir Thomas's Hampshire home led by a Sopwith Pup aircraft.

● John Pilger continues his far from rosy-eyed view of Australia in Viewpoint Special: The Last Dream (ITV, 10.35pm). One of his themes is the myth of white equality. He points out that a country which produces overnight millionaires has one in five of its children living in poverty.

Peter Waymark

Children of the sinners

RADIO CHOICE

● In Diana Goodman's carefully balanced inquiry Children of the Reich (Radio 4, 7.20pm), not everyone who bears witness to the horrors of the burden of guilt - the sins of the fathers - borne by post-Holocaust generations, does it as clearly-sighted as the German who says: "Being a German, I can only be proud for Goethe and ashamed for Hitler". And not everyone who contributes to the mini-debate on where the Holocaust should be placed in the perspective of time, is sufficiently revisionist to say, as one witness does tonight, that the Nazi atrocities will one day be seen as part of history and no longer as part of the present. The most encouraging comment is that of one child of the Reich who says: "We don't have any guilt - but we do bear responsibility for the preservation of human rights and democracy throughout the world".



Jacqueline du Pré: new Radio 3 series, 3.30pm

● Music highlights of the day: It's a live transmission tonight from the English National Opera's "home" - the Coliseum in London. And it's the David Pountney version of Wene's libretto which is the new production of Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel (Radio 3, 7.30pm). Mark Elder conducts. But Grimm is not forgotten. Joe Melia reads the original story before the Coliseum curtains go up on act three (at about 8.35).

● Earlier on Radio 3, (3.30), there is the start of a memorial season that acknowledges the artistry of the cellist Jacqueline du Pré who died last year. We hear two concertos, the Haydn in D and the Dvorak, plus the Beethoven "Bei Männern" variations. ● As for music on the lighter side, I commend Steve Race Presents the Radio Orchestra Show (Radio 2, 7.30pm). This is, ostensibly, a showcase for the orchestra, giving studio performances that proclaim the presence of an arranger who knows what he is about and is given the instrumental forces that such arrangements demand. The fact that the programmes turn out to be something rather more should not surprise you when you bear in mind that the anchor man is Steve Race. He is a man who can give even Benny Green a run for his money when it comes to demonstrating an encyclopaedic knowledge of popular music and passing judgement on it in a way that does not condescend to the uninitiated.

Peter Davalle

BBC1

- 6.00 **Casfax AM**.
6.35 **Edgar Kennedy** in Kennedy the Great (b/w). 6.55 **Weather**.
7.00 **Breakfast Time** with John Stapleton, Jeremy Pootman and Sally Jones. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
8.30 **Laverne and Shirley**. American comedy series starring Cindy Williams and Penny Marshall. 8.55 **Regional news and weather**.
9.00 **News and weather** followed by **Open Air**. Eamonn Holmes receives viewers' comments on yesterday's television programmes. 9.20 **Kitty**. Robert Kirby-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject.
10.00 **News and weather** followed by **Going for Gold** (r). 10.25 **Children's BBC**. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by **Play School** (r) and **The Wombles** (r).
10.55 **Five to Seven**. A reading by Philippa Urquhart. 11.00 **News and weather** followed by **Open Air** introduced by Patsy Coddwell and Eamonn Holmes.
12.00 **News and weather** followed by **Today's Show**. Today's guests include Terry Wile's cousin, John Waite, actor Christopher Timothy and ballroomer Per Lindstrom. Music is provided by Tiffany. 12.55 **Regional news and weather**.
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Michael Buerk. Weather. 1.30 **Neighbours**. Tom receives a message from Max and begins to behave suspiciously. 1.50 **Going for Gold**. European quiz game.
2.15 **Knots Landing**. An unexpected mourner turns up at Chry's funeral. 3.05 **Valerie**. Domestic comedy series starring Valerie Harper (r). 3.25 **The Clothes Show** includes a guide to what will

BBC2

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Adventurer adopts child of man who saved him

John Ridgway, the adventurer, has adopted the daughter of a man who saved his life in South America 18 years ago.

"I led an expedition to the headwaters of the Amazon in 1970", Mr Ridgway, of Ardmore in Scotland, said yesterday. "That trip was a tough one, and it was to change my whole life. I met a wonderful man called Elvin Berg, who lived in the Peruvian mountains. I would not be alive today but for him. He saved my life on the Amazon, and we became close friends."

"In 1985, I decided to go back to Peru. I longed to see Elvin Berg again, and I had talked so much about this man who had saved my life that my wife, Marie-Christine, and our daughter, Rebecca, both wanted to meet him."

"When we eventually arrived at Elvin's village, we learnt that he had been killed by guerrillas."

"We learnt that Elvin had a daughter, Elizabeth, by a Quechua Indian. She was being cared for by her grandparents. When we met them, they pleaded with us to take Elizabeth back to Europe. We discussed it and decided to adopt Elizabeth, who was then six years old. I felt I owed it to Elvin."

After lengthy legal negotiations, approval was granted by the Peruvian authorities, and the adoption papers were finalised last week.

Mr Ridgway, himself an orphan, said: "Elizabeth already calls us 'Mamma', and 'Daddy'."



John Ridgway and his wife Marie-Christine, with Elizabeth, the orphan they have legally adopted (Story and photograph: Stephen Marksson).

Parents' plea to Thatcher

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Sick children waiting for operations at the Birmingham Children's Hospital yesterday descended on 10 Downing Street, clutching teddy bears, to plead for extra staff and resources for life-saving heart surgery.

Dozens of parents and children, one in a wheelchair, travelled from Birmingham by coach to present the Prime Minister with a petition signed by 60,000 people and a letter calling for action to avoid further cancelled operations. Mrs Thatcher did not appear.

The parents' letter to Mrs Thatcher said that many lives were being put at risk and called for training programmes, more money set aside to employ intensive care staff, and the dedication of intensive care beds at the Birmingham hospital for heart surgery.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, attacked Mrs Thatcher for not seeing the children, and praised the Birmingham families for dramatizing the situation.

"It means that a lot more people now understand the pressing need that exists", he said.

In Glasgow, more than 2,000 protesting nurses and auxiliary staff yesterday failed to stop Greater Glasgow Health Board from agreeing to put hospital cleaning and catering services out to competitive tender.

Health unions said that a big campaign of opposition would be instigated immediately. Industrial action will be discussed at a meeting of the Scottish Trades Union Congress today.

The board said after a two-hour meeting that it regarded

a letter from the Scottish Office on competitive tendering as an instruction and that services at Glasgow's 40 hospitals should be the subject of bids by private companies and contractors.

Savings of £2 million a year have been achieved and the board expects to double that by putting services out to tender.

● The liver transplant programme at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, was saved from suspension yesterday by a last-minute pledge of £230,000 from the East Anglian regional health authority.

● Gogarburn, Edinburgh's biggest hospital for the mentally handicapped, was yesterday described as "a mess" yesterday after a walk-out by auxiliary staff who were joined by some nurses.

Cleaning up on £40 a week

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Mr David Rafferty is believed to be the country's most successful businessman still confined to the £40-a-week enterprise allowance.

In the nine months since Mr Rafferty, aged 33, who was unemployed, applied for the grant and started his own company, he has seen his business grow from almost zero to a turnover of £560,000. By the end of this year he hopes to have raised that to about £1 million.

Mr Rafferty, who is entitled to continue drawing the enterprise allowance until April 1, has inspectors from the scheme visiting him every three months to see if he is still in business.

"They are very impressed with the way things are going", he said.

He left his job with a contract cleaning company and decided to go into the

same business on his own in November 1986.

For five months he struggled without work, applied for the £40 a week allowance and went on an enterprise agency induction course for budding entrepreneurs in his home town of Newcastle upon Tyne.

"Some people there seemed to regard it just as a supplement to their unemployment money", he said.

The secret of Mr Rafferty's success was that he "knew a gap" in the market and offered his services to British Telecom to contract-clean telephone kiosks in Edinburgh.

The deal was signed and since then Mr Rafferty has taken on a full-time staff, which he expects to number 50 by next month, and about 100 part-time staff.

He said that previously, kiosk cleaning was being done at night, but he decided to

make it a high-profile operation so that people would see the work being done.

His firm, Superior Cleaning Specialists, will soon be going nationwide, Mr Rafferty said.

Mr Rafferty says he has been lucky with his business, contacts in the short time he has run his own company. He got financial backing from Lake Simmonds, part of the Henderson Elvatt group, the London investment company, once his first cleaning contract was signed, and hired a fleet of 10 vans.

The Manpower Services Commission, which runs the enterprise allowance scheme, said there were certainly no penalties for being successful.

"We have to bear these stories. If the allowance was withdrawn once a company reached a certain level of business, it might inhibit expansion."

Commons sketch

Chart-topper with car horn backing

On the day when Radio 1 disc jockeys were forced to stop talking so that more music might be played, Mr Peter Walker, the disc jockey's voice, bubbled happily on, without a good time in sight.

First Hot Hit came from Mr Peter Walker, a rave from the grave who has now taken the disc jockey's voice, bubbled happily on, without a good time in sight.

Forming his old, slippery-by-the-fireside approach for a heavier, punchier sound, he belted out his latest hit, "Load of Nonsense", to a thinly-packed audience.

The chorus, repeated after each opposition verse, goes: "That's a load of nonsense/ I suggest he studies the facts/ It really is a load of nonsense", leading up to a final burst of "Coming from the Honourable Gentleman/ I find that a bit thick", with a fade-out repetition of healing service statistics from 1978, that classic watershed year.

Though his comeback still seems a long way off, Junior Walker, now known as Senior Walker, might well appeal to the nostalgia market.

Amid rumours of the break-up of "The Liberals" group, the climax of a full 40 years of farewell concerts, Mr Alan Beith, second fiddle in this all-wind combo, staged a solo performance under the billing of Member answering for the House of Commons Commission.

While Mr Beith whistled gently away, Mr Dennis Skinner came in with some enthusiastic backing on cymbals, drums, car-horn and broken bottles. "Some of the House of Commons staff are being treated, particularly by some Tory MPs, as if it was upstairs and downstairs", he roared and bellowed.

Underneath his backing, Mr Beith's tin-whistle could just be heard: perhaps he should take his complaint to the Head of the Refreshment Staff.

In the first of a routine medley of drum-solos, Mr Skinner gave a spirited rendition of that fine old classic, "It's a Cover-Up!" while veteran disc jockey Mister Speaker came in with his well-loved catchphrase, "Order Order!"

Those who took the trouble to decipher Skinner's lyrics discovered that "It's a Cover-Up!" was about the puping of the Commons House.

Craig Brown

Government can justify some breaches of trust

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs
Correspondent

The renewed attempt to secure a permanent ban on the book *Spycatcher* opened yesterday with an admission by the Government that there are circumstances when a breach of confidence can be justified.

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, for the Attorney General, said: "We have always recognized that there can be situations in which there is just cause or excuse for breaking confidence. But, on the tests usually applied by the courts, this is not such a case."

Sir Robert Armstrong, former Cabinet Secretary and the Government's chief witness, has maintained throughout

the proceedings for a ban on the memoirs of Mr Peter Wright, former M15 officer, that there are no circumstances when a breach of confidence by a member of the security services is justified.

His stance was strongly criticized as "absolute" by Mr Justice Scott in his ruling last month favouring *The Sunday Times*, *The Guardian* and the *Observer*.

Mr Alexander also said the Crown's aim was to narrow the boundaries of press freedom. That was not so.

The courts had always upheld the duty of confidence between an employee and his employer, and no employment required greater trust

and secrecy than the work of the Security Services.

Rather there might be "one or two ways" in which the press tried "to alter the accepted boundaries between the rights of Government and citizens on the one hand and the press on the other", he said.

There had been a "clearly expressed dislike" in the press for what was called "the prior restraint" of the Government applying for interim injunctions to prevent publication.

The Sunday Times had relied on the position in the United States, where it was almost impossible to obtain an injunction preventing newspaper publication.

In publishing extracts from

Spycatcher in July, Mr Andrew Neil, *The Sunday Times* editor, took the greatest care to preserve secrecy about the publication because he believed the law might well restrain him from publishing if the Government had the chance to intervene.

The Attorney General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, is contesting Mr Justice Scott's refusal to impose a permanent ban on press reports of material from the book.

"The Crown challenges this application of what, it will submit, are different standards as between the private citizen on one hand and the press on the other", he said at the start of the appeal, expected to last eight days.

Mr Alexander also attacked

last month's High Court ruling as creating different standards for the private citizen and the press.

It had resulted in a position where "it is unlawful for Peter Wright to circulate or publish his memoirs but it is lawful for the media to do so".

Mr Alexander told Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Bingham that the approach adopted by Mr Justice Scott "substantially eroded" the value of any protection which could be obtained against Mr Wright.

It had been hailed by Mr Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian*, as a "resounding victory for press freedom".

Mr Justice Scott, Mr

Alexander said, had expressed the strong view that Peter Wright was in "flagrant and continuing" breach of confidence and his duty to the Crown.

He had upheld the "essential" principle for which the Crown contended: he was satisfied that the publication by Mr Wright of his memoirs was not in the public interest and that the importance of the principle which the Crown sought to protect had been established.

Yet the judge reached conclusions about the newspapers - that they were free to publish - which substantially eroded the principle which he had sought to uphold against Mr Wright.

The hearing continues.

£5m boost for Hotel

Continued from page 1

ferences between the European agency and the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Nass, over the freedom of European countries for their scientists and technologists to use a pressurized laboratory and workshop built for the European Space Agency.

After more than a year's negotiations, officials from the two space agencies were believed to have "shaken hands" on an agreement at the weekend.

Work on Hotel and Columbus is not linked, but advisers to the Department of Trade and Industry hope the Government could announce a decision on both projects in a response to expected criticism in a Lords select committee

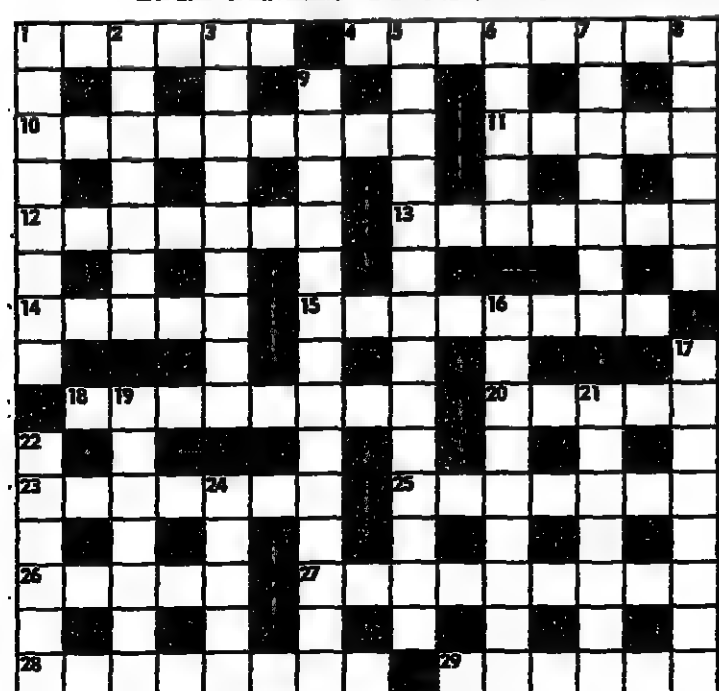
report on science and technology.

The Lords are expected to offer the Government the choice of spending more or pulling out of space technology.

Members of the committee showed enormous interests in Hotel when they were taking evidence from experts, and they seem certain to propose that the next stage of work is pursued more aggressively.

Mr Alan Bond, the inventor of the Hotel engine, said he would be encouraged for the prospects of the space plane if the Government backed an enabling programme. Last year, Mr Bond threatened to take his ideas abroad if the Government refused to continue support for new space technologies.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,569



- ACROSS**
- Household truism apparently (6)
 - Coterie organised in secret (8)
 - Poet or poet's mighty man (9)
 - Tied up in vault (5)
 - This topaz is false - it's yellow (7)
 - Settled what one owes - not before time (7)
 - Like a small dwelling in Berkshire? (5)
 - At cards with her Cupid unable to see the outcome (8)
 - Unused ticket for bridge (8)
 - Belief expressed in sacred oratorio (5)
 - In this motion Venus has backing of Apollo? (7)
 - Announce computer issue (4-3)
 - Porridge for running amok with Luger (5)
 - Make graceful departure, moving at a comfortable pace (4-5)
 - Set off for school in time (8)
 - Cover for conventional arms (6)
- DOWN**
- An enchanting Scots lad, John Wellington Wells (8)
 - Relating to blue and white flowers? (7)
 - Talk a lot more apt for artisan (3-6)
 - Pinkerton, Wellington and Nell Gwynn? (14)
 - The company stand (5)
 - Collect to add a bit more (3,2)
 - Club thinkers use? (6)
 - Rude awakening after royal kiss? (14)
 - A royal convent left in Russia (9)
 - Play House in picture showing University (8)
 - By tube to Holborn (7)
 - Exciting display of key design (7)
 - Put on weight and years (6)
 - Athenian without assistance on All Saint's Day (5)

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- BELAMY**
- A friend
 - Insidious nightshade
 - An empire at real tennis
- METAGROBOLIZE**
- To mystify
 - To use as a catalyst
 - To philosophize like Grobel
- FACINOROUS**
- Easy to perform
 - Baked from cereal
 - Wicked
- ADGE**
- A double-headed axe
 - To borrow without returning
 - Frustration

Solutions page 22, column 8

Solution to Puzzle No 17,568

ACROSS: 1. HOUSEHOLD TRUISM APPARENTLY (6) 2. COTERIE ORGANISED IN SECRET (8) 3. POET OR POET'S MIGHTY MAN (9) 4. TIED UP IN VAULT (5) 5. THIS TOPAZ IS FALSE - IT'S YELLOW (7) 6. SETTLED WHAT ONE OWES - NOT BEFORE TIME (7) 7. LIKE A SMALL DWELLING IN BERKSHIRE? (5) 8. AT CARDS WITH HER CUPID UNABLE TO SEE THE OUTCOME (8) 9. UNUSED TICKET FOR BRIDGE (8) 10. BELIEF EXPRESSED IN SACRED ORATORIO (5) 11. IN THIS MOTION VENUS HAS BACKING OF APOLLO? (7) 12. ANNOUNCE COMPUTER ISSUE (4-3) 13. PORRIDGE FOR RUNNING AMOK WITH LUGER (5) 14. MAKE GRACEFUL DEPARTURE, MOVING AT A COMFORTABLE PACE (4-5) 15. SET OFF FOR SCHOOL IN TIME (8) 16. COVER FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMS (6)

DOWN: 1. AN ENCHANTING SCOTS LAD, JOHN WELLINGTON WELLS (8) 2. RELATING TO BLUE AND WHITE FLOWERS? (7) 3. TALK A LOT MORE APT FOR ARTISAN (3-6) 4. PINKERTON, WELLINGTON AND NELL GWYNN? (14) 5. THE COMPANY STAND (5) 6. COLLECT TO ADD A BIT MORE (3,2) 7. CLUB THINKERS USE? (6) 8. RUDE AWAKENING AFTER ROYAL KISS? (14) 9. A ROYAL CONVENT LEFT IN RUSSIA (9) 10. PLAY HOUSE IN PICTURE SHOWING UNIVERSITY (8) 11. BY TUBE TO HOLBORN (7) 12. EXCITING DISPLAY OF KEY DESIGN (7) 13. PUT ON WEIGHT AND YEARS (6) 14. ATHENIAN WITHOUT ASSISTANCE ON ALL SAINT'S DAY (5)

WEATHER

Rain over much of southern Britain will spread north and turn to snow over higher ground, particularly in Scotland. Northern isles will stay generally bright with showers. Over southern Britain there will be some heavy rain at times but conditions will generally become clearer and showery later in the day. The south east will stay mainly dry with occasional outbreaks of rain. Outlook: becoming cold and showery.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; h, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; st, sleet; t, thunder.					
Amsterdam	10	12	14	16	18
Antwerp	10	12	14	16	18
Berlin	10	12	14	16	18
Brussels	10	12	14	16	18
Cologne	10	12	14	16	18
Düsseldorf	10	12	14	16	18
Frankfurt	10	12	14	16	18
Hamburg	10	12	14	16	18
Köln	10	12	14	16	18
Leipzig	10	12	14	16	18
Munich	10	12	14	16	18
Nuremberg	10	12	14	16	18
Paris	10	12	14	16	18
Rome	10	12	14	16	18
Stockholm	10	12	14	16	18
Vienna	10	12	14	16	18
Zurich	10	12	14	16	18

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	PM	HT	HT
London	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Amsterdam	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Antwerp	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Berlin	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Brussels	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Cologne	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Düsseldorf	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Frankfurt	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Hamburg	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Köln	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Leipzig	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Munich	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Nuremberg	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Paris	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Rome	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Stockholm	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Vienna	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4
Zurich	10.10	4.10	4.4	4.4

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun in	Rain in	Max F	Min F
Scarboro	—	.29	C 43	43 dull
Amherstburg	—	.29	C 43	43 cloudy
Crowar	—	.03	C 43	43 dull
Cambridge	—	.03	C 43	43 dull
Wellington	—	.03	C 43	43 dull
Hastings	—	.03	C 43	43 cloudy
Windsor	—	.03	C 43	43 cloudy
London	—	.03	C 43	43 cloudy
Southwark	0.5	.03	C 43	46 cloudy
Leamington	—	.03	C 43	46 cloudy
Bourmont	0.5	.03	C 43	46 cloudy
Warrington	2.1	.03	C 43	46 bright
Truro	—	.03	C 43	46 bright
Teignmouth	—	.03	C 43	46 cloudy
Weymouth	—	.03	C 43	46 cloudy
Worcester	—	.02	10	60 dull
Gloucester	—	.02	11	61 cloudy
Hereford	—	.02	9	44 dull
Exeter	—	.02	11	61 cloudy
Douglas	—	.22	51	41 rain
Cardiff	—	.22	51	37 cloudy
London	—	.19	51	41 cloudy
Amphers	—	.26	63	43 rain
Aldershot	4.1	.03	39	39 sunny
Leicester	5.5	.03	39	39 sunny
Leamington	0.4	.03	39	39 sunny
Worcester	5.1	.03	39	39 sunny
Wick	—	.03	51	41 sunny

* Domestic figures not available

THE POUND

THE POUND			
Austrian S	2.58	Bank	2.58
Belgian Bfr	2.58	Bank	2.42
Denmark Kr	6.47	Bank	6.47
France Ffr	64.70	Bank	61.38
Germany M	2.58	Bank	2.58
Italy Lira	10.10	Bank	10.10
Netherlands Gld	7.87	Bank	7.77
Portugal Esc	200.0	Bank	199.0
Spain Ptas	166.6	Bank	166.6
Sweden Kr	2.58	Bank	2.58
Switzerland Fr	2.58	Bank	2.58
Yugoslavia Dn	2.58	Bank	2.58
Bank	2.58	Bank	2.58
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AM

PM

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 8C (46F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Wind: 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: 12C (54F); lowest day temp: 3C (37F). Wind: 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph.

YESTERDAY

Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 8C (46F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Wind: 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph, 6 pm, 10 to 15 mph.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London:

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1440.1 (+3.4)
FT-SE 100
1790.0 (+3.3)
Bargains
29870 (27832)
USM (Datastream)
145.44 (+0.35)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7720 (-0.0070)
W German mark
2.9787 (+0.0015)
Trade-weighted
74.7 (same)

Dollar inches ahead

The dollar made further small gains against European currencies in foreign exchange markets yesterday, but it eased back against the yen ahead of today's Japanese trade figures for December.

In London the dollar closed 75 points above its weekend close against the mark, at DM1.6810, but slipped 45 points against the yen, to ¥129.95. The pound fell 60 points against the dollar, to \$1.7720, and 8 points against the mark, to DM2.9827.

Asda slows

Asda-MFI, the superstore operator, disappointed the market by reporting pretax profits up 10 per cent at £94.8 million. Turnover advanced from £1.4 billion to £1.5 billion. An interim dividend of 1.6p was declared (1.37p).
Temps, page 26
Details, page 27

Smith interim

David S Smith Holdings, the paper and packaging company, made pretax profits of £14.54 million in the half year to end-October, a rise of 53 per cent on a turnover up 38 per cent. The interim dividend is up 20 per cent, to 2.1p.
Temps, page 26

Evode up 15%

Evode Group, the specialty chemicals company, reported a 15 per cent rise in pretax profits to £6.2 million for the year to end-September.
Temps, page 26

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1959.55 (+3.48)
Dow Jones	22910.20 (+308.55)
Hong Kong	2512.19 (+42.45)
Amsterdam	2201.19 (+1.7)
Sydney	1230.3 (+15.5)
Frankfurt	1280.8 (+41.9)
Geneva	n/a
Paris	277.8 (+7.0)
Zurich	420.4 (+12.1)
London	
FT-A-Share	1440.1 (+3.4)
FT-100	1790.0 (+3.3)
FT-Gold Mines	283.4 (-11.1)
FT-Fixed Interest	94.42 (-0.13)
FT-Govt Secs	88.4 (-0.49)
Recent issues	Page 28
Closing prices	Page 28

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Body Shop	885p (+25p)
Marler	590p (+25p)
Vitropac	490p (+25p)
Color Group	490p (+25p)
LASMO	3204p (+14p)
Schroder	4775p (+25p)
WPP	740p (+15p)
Henderson Admin	3924p (+15p)
Thames TV	4175p (+25p)
Anglia Sec	4275p (+25p)
Calsonic	6235p (+25p)
Lucas	515p (+30p)
Int Thomson	515p (+30p)
Parker Knoll	2675p (+17p)
Lamort	2845p (+14p)
Great Portland	2845p (+14p)

FALLS:

Hanger	800p (-25p)
BIC	3985p (-17p)
UK Land	425p (-25p)
Standard Chart	520p (-15p)
Closing prices	Page 28

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	8 1/4%
3-month interbank	9 3/4%
3-month eligible bills	9 3/4-9 1/2%
US Prime Rate	8 1/4%
Federal Funds rate	5 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.88-5.87%
30-year bonds	10 1/2-10 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£ \$1.7720	£ \$1.7720
£ DM2.9787	£ DM1.6805
£ Sfr2.4338	£ Sfr1.5715
£ FF10.0867	£ FF5.6720
£ Yen230.27	£ Yen130.05
£ Indec74.7	£ Indec74.7
ECU £0.69239	SDR £0.760184

GOLD

London	New York
AM \$475.85 pm \$475.40	
close \$475.00-475.50 (\$258.25-258.75)	
New York	
Comex \$476.20-475.70	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) pm \$16.45 (\$16.55)	
Deutsche latest trading price	
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Guinness 'in secret deal'

High Court told of Distillers share buy

By Lawrence Lever
Guinness agreed a secret deal with a Swiss company to induce it to purchase 10 million Distillers shares in the final stages of its bid for the Scottish drinks group, the High Court heard yesterday.

Details of the deal are documented in a letter from the Swiss company Pipetec AG addressed to Mr Thomas Ward, at that time a Guinness director, at the company's Portman Square headquarters.

The letter, dated April 18, 1986, the day that Guinness won control of Distillers, was read out in open court yesterday. It purports to spell out the terms of an indemnity and other monies which Mr Ward had agreed Guinness would pay to Pipetec in return for its purchasing 10 million Distillers shares.

It also contains what purports to be the signature of Mr Ward, confirming his agreement to the terms.

However, the court was also told that only one day earlier Mr Olivier Roux, the former Guinness finance director, had assured the Takeover Panel in writing that Guinness had made no financial arrangements with the purchaser of the 10 million shares.

The crucial letters

Full text of the letter from Guinness to the Director General of the Takeover Panel on April 17, 1986

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir,

DISTILLERS

You have asked us to write to you with respect to the reported purchase today of approximately 10 million shares of Distillers through Casanova & Co. We have spoken to Casanova and can confirm that the purchaser is not a subsidiary or associated company of Guinness, that such shares were not bought for our account and that we have made no financial arrangements with the purchaser with respect to such shares (including any arrangement linked to the sale of Distillers' listed investments).

Yours faithfully,
Olivier Roux,
For and on behalf of Guinness PLC.

Full text of letter from Pipetec to Guinness director Mr Thomas Ward on April 18, 1986, countersigned on receipt by Mr Ward.

Pipetec AG
Lucerne

Dear Mr Ward,

We are pleased to confirm our yesterday's telephone conversation with Mr W. Frey as follows:

1. to pay us an upfront arrangement fee of 47,250 pounds sterling;

2. to repurchase from us the shares bought as above (or the respective securities issued by Guinness PLC upon conversion as the case may be) within sixty days at a price determined by adding:

(1) the original price;

(2) commissions, fees and other costs charged in London in connection with such purchase;

(3) the taxes levied in Switzerland for securities transactions of 0.33% flat (ie 0.165% each for purchase and sale of the shares);

(4) our commission of 0.1% flat calculated on the purchase price and;

(5) our refinancing cost for the period from the purchase of the shares to their sale on the basis of our actual funding cost plus a margin of one eighth percent per annum.

We ask you to kindly confirm your agreement with the above by returning to us the enclosed duplicate of this letter duly signed on behalf of Guinness PLC.

Yours faithfully,
Dr F Burger
(signed) Thomas J Ward

since the present statistics began in 1971.

Average weekly sales last month were nevertheless a record at £2.74 billion, 8 per cent up on a year earlier, and well above November's £2.23 billion weekly average.

Officials at the Department of Trade and Industry said there was no surprise at the December fall, given the sharp rise in sales in earlier months.

The fall in sales volume last month was due to the seasonal adjustments applied to the figures, the officials added, and it is possible that, in the light of changing spending patterns, the seasonal factors produced a misleading figure. There was a fall in sales volume in December 1986.

The trend in retail sales is still upwards, officials said, and sales volume rose by more than 1 per cent in the fourth quarter to a level 5.5 per cent up on a year earlier.

Mr Richard Weir, director-general of the Retail Consortium, said: "With volume growth a year-on-year 6 per cent, I'm certainly not complaining. These figures confirm that retailers' concerns must be about margins rather than volumes."

Mr Weir said the Christmas shopping period had been characterized by a relatively quiet start to December, followed by a last-minute rush. He remains optimistic about prospects for this year, and predicts volume growth of 5 per cent.

The City saw the figures as an antidote to worries that the economy is overheating, although economists cautioned against reading too much into one month's figures.

"These figures fitted in with our view that the economy reached its peak in the third quarter and is now slowing down," said Mr Andrew Smith, economist at CL-Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank.

Mr Richard Jeffrey, economist at Security Pacific Hoare Govett, said: "Retail sales growth is slowing down slightly, but December is often disappointing."

Dixons is hoping that the European Nations' Cup football matches and Olympic events later in the year could boost demand for television sets and video recorders.

The message from Marks and Spencer yesterday was that there was no sign of faltering in its sales patterns. More money was taken over Christmas than during the previous one and now its clearance sales were "buoyant", the company said.

The 21 department stores of the John Lewis Partnership have continued to report good clearance sales, with values up 11.9 per cent in the week ended January 9.



Guest host: Trusthouse Forte chairman Rocco Forte at the Waldorf Hotel yesterday, with Pascale Viala-Delelle of the hotel staff (Photograph: John Rogers)

THF still aiming for Savoy

By Carol Fergusson

Trusthouse Forte, the hotelier and caterer, revealed preliminary results up by a third yesterday, and announced an important assets revaluation.

Mr Rocco Forte, the chairman, also reaffirmed his intention to take over the Savoy Hotel group. "The battle for control begins this year," he said.

The battle for control is currently making its way to court where THF will seek to set aside 5.8 per cent of the voting shares which Mr Forte claims were wrongly issued for

the purchase of the Lancaster Hotel.

"The shares were issued not to the owner of the hotel, but to a Swiss foundation where the directors are the directors of the Savoy", he said. If the action succeeds, the directors' holdings will fall from just over 50 per cent to just under 45 per cent. THF has 69 per cent of the shares in the company but, because of the complicated voting structure, has only 42.3 per cent of the votes.

Pretax profits for the year were £180 million, boosted by strong performances from the British hotels, and both contract and public catering. The dividend was increased to 7.1p from 6p net. Mr Forte said THF had reduced its dependence on US visitors to London from 45 per cent in 1985 to 25 per cent last year.

A revaluation of about 40 per cent of THF's property portfolio threw up a valuation surplus of £484 million.

Temps, page 26
Comment, page 27

Chemical Bank may sell home loans offshoot

By Vivian Goldsmith

The £1.2 billion mortgage business of Chemical Bank in Britain may be up for sale.

A decision is due from the US bank within the next few weeks, but already several international banks have expressed an interest.

"It is not definite that they will sell it. They are looking again at the UK," Mr Chris Marney, director of Chemical Bank Home Loans, said.

Chemical Bank is following a policy of retrenchment along with other US banks who have weathered the double blow of Third World debt and poor trading conditions.

Sumitomo Bank of Japan is believed to be heading the field in the race to pick up this valuable slice of the British home loans market won by

existing contacts with the life companies. As for any expansion by buying an entire business, I have no idea.

"We are looking at buying securitized loans in the market. People might be confusing the two different issues."

Only last October Chemical Bank announced 170 redundancies among its 950 staff in Britain.

It entered the British home loans market 15 months ago. "We would not be prepared to say how large our business is now," Mr Neil Macgregor, assistant general manager responsible for home loans at Sumitomo, said.

"Our attitude has been that we want to expand by marketing our mortgages through our

See it Believe it

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The Barbican Health And Fitness Centre - 97 Aldersgate Street, London EC1

Midland cutback may cost 200 jobs

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank yesterday announced it was pulling out of institutional equity-brokerage with the loss of up to 200 jobs. It is the last stage in running down the equity operations of Greenwell Montagu Securities, which Midland bought three years ago as W Greenwell, the stockbroker.

The operation is almost certain to be closed down, although Midland said that it had engaged Phoenix Securities to look for a buyer for parts of Greenwell Montagu, such as the corporate finance operation.

Midland said some of the employees in the equity-brokerage operation would be found jobs elsewhere in the group and some may be taken on by James Capel, the broker. More than half, however, were likely to be dismissed. The equity-brokerage activities involve 28 salesmen, 25 analysts, 22 dealers, six corporate finance experts and 125 back-office staff.

The decision to withdraw from equity-brokerage was prompted by the link-up with the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation late last year. Midland said. Previously it could only supply its corporate and institutional clients with a full service by retaining the equity operation. But it was now able to direct clients to James Capel, owned by the Hong Kong bank, instead.

In March last year Midland pulled out of equity market-making because it was unprofitable. The result was a steady reduction in staff - from 300 to about 200.

Midland retains an involvement in securities markets through its successful gilt-edged primary dealing operation, a Eurobond and domestic bond trading operation and three separate private client stockbroking operations.

●The job cuts at Greenwell Montagu will push the number of redundancies in City firms announced already this year above 400.

Midland disaster, page 28

TEMPUS

Asda still has a lot to prove

Hanson, the industrial conglomerate, firmed 2p to 143p

Thames Television stood out, with a 15p rise to 393p, helped by a bullish review on the sector from County NatWest, the broking arm of the NatWest Bank. A few

ducing companies seems to have been broken with the IBA establishing a framework for further talks. Thames, which owns its own filmmaking subsidiary, Euston — employing only nine full-time staff — is virtually unaffected.

Last night Henderson denied suggestions that it was already in talks with Newman Tonks about possible terms. But the market is still betting that a bid may be just around the corner. Newman Tonks finished 3p dearer at 181p.

There is no doubt the combined business had little future. To go it alone both in management and financial resources was the only way to recover the pioneering position Asda once enjoyed. The newish management team is finally implementing a strategy outlined nearly four years ago, which should increasingly make an impact. But the competition is hard to

Indeed the group's seemingly altruistic launch of a new range of brightly packaged and clearly labelled products will make domestic glue buying more effective.

However, Evode sees itself as a specialty chemicals company with a broad customer base. No single customer accounts for more than 1 per cent of sales. This is surprising given last year's purchase of

year could rise to £30 million giving a prospective p/e ratio of 12½. The prospective yield, on a 20 per cent dividend increase, is 2.4 per cent.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Asda profits show reasons for disposal of MFI chain

By Alexandra Jackson

Half-time profits from Asda-MFI, Britain's leading superstore operator, revealed the extent of the downturn at the furniture chain MFI, which has since been sold. Group trading profits increased by 8 per cent to £90.7 million but this masked a 25 per cent drop in profits at MFI, from £23.7 million to £17.8 million.

Pretax profits for the group increased from £86.1 million to £94.9 million in the 28 weeks to November 14. Turnover rose 11 per cent to £1.5 billion. An interim dividend of 17 per cent higher at 1.6p was declared.

Mr John Hardman, who has been chairman of the group since the beginning of the year, reflected yesterday on the group's loss of direction in recent years and outlined moves to recreate Asda as a force on the national retailing scene.

"These results reflect we are well on the way to implementing large parts of our strategy," he said, "but it is early days and there is lots more to come."

About the decision to keep Allied Carpets, previously earmarked for sale, Mr Hardman said: "Although the price we could have realized for Allied after the stock market crash was a consideration, we now actually want to keep it. It is important not to produce a feeling of uncertainty within



John Hardman: aiming to turn Asda into a force on the national retailing scene

Allied, so within realistic bounds it is not for sale."

The group holds net cash of £290 million after the £505 million MFI sale and plans to reinvest it in new stores and warehousing. Asda has retained a 25 per cent interest in MFI which has been resumed Maxicare and also includes Hygena, the kitchen manufacturer. Asda expects to make a

reasonable return on its £52 million investment when it returns to the stock market within three years.

The performance of the 116-store Asda chain was strong with a 31 per cent jump in operating profits and more than 4 per cent real growth in food sales, accounting for three quarters of the total.

Five new stores opened in

the half year, with a further four expected to start trading in the second half. Next year, 15 new stores should be opened. Refurbishing of older outlets is proceeding at a similar rate.

Asda is expanding in Scotland and the South of England, areas outside its traditional Northern and Midlands base.

H&C in £30.6m chemical purchase

By Alison Eadie

Harrisons & Crosfield, the chemicals, building supplies, feedstuffs manufacturer and overseas trader, is expanding its chemicals operations through the purchase of Lankro, a private Manchester-based company, for about £30.6 million.

Lankro owns 75 per cent of Lankro Chemicals, with employees owning the remaining 25 per cent. H&C will make an offer of £7.65 million for the employee shares as soon as practical.

Lankro Chemicals is principally involved in specialty chemicals, polymer additives, radiation curing chemicals, surfactants and polyurethanes. H&C's chemical activities mainly consist of chrome and zinc chemicals, iron oxide, aluminium chloride, polymer additives and surfactants.

The two companies are a very good fit because of the complementary positions in polymer additives and surfactants and because of the scope for sharing technology worldwide, H&C said.

Mr Dennis Stocks, managing director of Lankro Chemicals, said putting together the polymer additives would create a strong force in Europe and internationally.

Panel fights for power in its own backyard

COMMENT

The authority of the Takeover Panel and its shadowy status within our legal system are once again under threat. But this time the battle resembles a shoot-out at the Last Chance Saloon. A reverse for the panel over its ruling that Guinness, under its former management, took part in a concert party to buy Distillers' shares at a crucial stage in the bid battle would inevitably lead to radical reforms. Given the weight of legalistic pressure on the panel in the post-Big Bang environment, an adverse judgment would spell open season for clever corporate finance lawyers and possibly the ending of the panel's unique role in a self-regulating City.

The concert party ruling was a crucial one for the panel. It marked an overt statement of the panel's authority after the deluge of criticism which it faced in the wake of one embarrassing revelation after another as the Guinness affair unfolded. The first step along the road to recovering its poise was the tightening of a number of rules designed to close loopholes and to make share dealings during takeover battles a good deal more transparent. Allied to the Stock Exchange's much tougher surveillance systems, these rule changes, almost all borne of the Guinness experience though that fact remained officially unacknowledged, were a substantial gain for investors at large. They meant that the outcome of

contested bids hinged far more on factors such as price and industrial logic than on the ability of financial advisers to pull strings in the markets.

The timing of the panel's investigation and the publication of findings was itself significant. They took place well before the DTI inspectors were able to produce even an interim report and well ahead of final court hearings in connection with Guinness. This was widely recognized inside the City as an assertion that the panel was determined to guard its traditional ground however undiplomatic this might appear to the world at large.

There was nothing remotely oblique or technical about the line being taken by Guinness in the judicial review which commenced yesterday and which may well take a further two days to complete. In effect, it challenged the most fundamental powers of the panel to have jurisdiction within its own backyard. Stripped of the legal jargon, Guinness maintained yesterday that the panel should have deferred its own decision until the findings of the DTI investigation were complete. By not doing so, maintained the company, the panel had acted unfairly and prematurely. If the court supports this view, then the panel will not only be subject to review by wider legal authorities, but will be reduced to the role of second fiddle.

Bitter half of THF legacy

Lord Forte made his major forays to buy up hotels when the market was on its back, and his son Rocco is still reaping the harvest of his father's flair. Part of the harvest is ripe and rich, in the form of Trusthouse Forte's hoard of real property assets, the value of which rises as surely as night follows day. But the bitter half of the legacy is that Rocco's style is constantly compared to that of his father. And as a result, the group is declared dull.

At some point, the opinion formers will have to admit, if only to themselves, that THF is a management company, not an entrepreneurial company. And then they may recognize what THF is capable of achieving, rather than looking to the company to surprise them with a mega-deal.

In the latest financial year to October 31, the group has turned in a solid set of results where profits are up from £124 million, before tax and excluding property profits, to £156 million. At the pretax level, with everything thrown in, the rise is a more impressive 33 per cent.

Backing the trading advance is a sharp increase in net assets. With the spectre of the unnamed asset-stripping predator always lurking in the next motorway service station, THF has revealed the principal London and European Hotels to produce a surplus of £484 million, bringing the store of fixed assets to more than £2.1 billion, but more importantly lifting the net asset value per share from 141p to 202p.

In the current year, the remainder of the properties will be revalued, which

could add a similar 60p a share to the net asset value. Thereafter, it is planned to revalue every three years, a departure from the rolling seven-year programme previously used.

Whether the revaluations will have the effect of discouraging or encouraging predators, if indeed there are any, is a moot point. But it will at least ensure that THF will not go out for want of proper appreciation of the value.

The revaluation also has the benign effect of reducing gearing levels, with year-end borrowings down from 47 per cent of shareholders' funds to 28 per cent. Part of the decrease is due to currency movements.

But it is at the operating levels where Rocco must be judged, and here the comparisons are flattering. Over the last five years, profits have gone up by more than three times. Operating margins have increased from 8.5 per cent to 11.1 per cent in the same period, while hotel margins went up from 16.3 per cent to 24.7 per cent.

There is scope to increase hotel margins considerably more, by adding rooms and optimising space. The objective is 30 per cent, but that will take another five years.

Meanwhile, the collapse of the dollar, the presidential election, and America's economic uncertainties may leave the current year flat. But when "flat" means earnings growth of more than 10 per cent, the shares at 218p on a prospective price-earnings ratio of 12 have no worries at all.

News Int lifts Pearson stake

By Michael Tate

Further purchases of Pearson shares by News International have lifted the stake held by The News Corporation companies to 44,202,997 shares, or 20.46 per cent of the equity. The 450,000 new shares were acquired through the market.

Mr Peter Steinhilber, the finance director of News International, said yesterday that 37.35 million shares were held by News International and the rest by News Publishers, a Bermuda-registered company 100 per cent owned by companies within The News Corporation group.

He said the group was not in the market for more shares yesterday and was "not looking" for more shares at present.

The News Corporation issued a statement last night saying it had "no present intention of increasing its aggregate shareholding in Pearson above 25 per cent of the company's issued share capital."

"Moreover," the statement added, "The News Corporation would not consider plans either of these courses of action during the next 12 months in the absence of a material change in the circumstances of Pearson."

HunterPrint ahead by 37%

By Joe Joseph

"We've had excellent results from all divisions."

He added that HunterPrint, which produced more than 7 million colour prospectuses for the Government's recent BP share sale, had begun the latest financial year on a good note, landing printing contracts for a new fortnightly magazine for EMAP, the new Marks and Spencer catalogue, a 16-page supplement for the Mail on Sunday's weekly colour magazine and for BP's report and accounts.

Mr Michael Hunter, the chairman of this Corby, Northamptonshire, based printer, said yesterday:

HunterPrint's shares rose by 10p to 375p on the news of the figures, which also showed turnover up 29.3 per cent to £90.94 million in the year to September 21 and earnings per share, fully diluted, rising from 19.76p to 28.09p.

Shareholders will receive a final dividend of 5p, making 7.06p in all - about a third better than the previous year.

Exports, one of HunterPrint's targeted growth areas, more than doubled last year to £8 million.

Exports, one of HunterPrint's targeted growth areas, more than doubled last year to £8 million.

Broker starts ITC creditors' appeals

By Colin Narkewich

Machione Watson, the London metal broker firm, yesterday opened a series of appeals by creditors of the International Tin Council against court orders that are preventing them from recovering millions of pounds in bad debt.

The company, a subsidiary of the US investment bank Drexel Burnham Lambert, challenged earlier rulings that recognized the international organization as having no legal identity, freeing its members behind a veil of anonymity.

The company said that all divisions had performed well. Housebuilding and construction results were very encouraging, particularly the increased contribution from operations in the North-west of England. The final dividend should be not less than 1p per share, making a total of 3.75p.

He said it had been wrong of the High Court judges, Mr Justice Staughton and Mr Justice Millett, to conclude that the ITC had a separate legal personality and that it had incurred the liability on its own behalf.

The ITC was "an unincorporated association, all the members of which are jointly and severally liable," he said. He added that the "treaty setting up the ITC conferred certain legal capacities on it, but gave it no legal personality distinct from its members. And if the ITC did have a separate identity, its members would not be exempt from meeting its obligations in the event of default."

Hillsdown sells off Evershed

By Alison Eadie

Hillsdown, the food, furniture and stationery group which had grown rapidly through a series of acquisitions, is selling J Evershed & Son, its convenience store subsidiary, partly to Booker and partly to Circle K, for a total £11.3 million.

Hillsdown said that Evershed's business was a significant area of growth, but the company's strategy in the food industry was to develop and expand food manufacturing and processing.

Circle K, the second-largest convenience store operator in the world, with its base in Phoenix, Arizona, is buying Evershed's 36 retail outlets and its eight franchised stores for £7.3 million.

Booker, the agribusiness, food and health group, is buying the wholesale food distribution "business" servicing independent retailers, and catering for £4 million.

Circle K has 4,000 outlets worldwide and 180 in Britain.

Wall Street stung into week of curbs by the wrath of Congress

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Wall Street has a month at most to satisfy Congress that there is no need for a choking wave of new regulation in the wake of the Brady Report on the causes of the stock market crash in October.

New York Stock Exchange officials have requested members to refrain voluntarily from large-scale computerized program trades whenever the market moves up or down by 75 points.

It is an experimental program, a one-week flirtation with the system of "circuit breakers" recommended by the Presidential commission headed by Mr Nicholas Brady, a Wall Street investment banker, as the means to prevent another potentially disastrous breakdown.

Then, over the next month, Wall Street will be analyzed, dissected and thoroughly exposed by Congressional investigators who will recommend additional circuit breakers which could produce new legislation as early as this year. Tough new margin requirements are almost a certainty. A broader regulatory blanket over markets is also likely.

The United States Securities and Exchange Commission will release a more detailed study of the causes,

emphasizing computerized trading, later this month. Beginning on February 2, the Senate will hold four days of hearings which will include testimony from the exchanges, government officials, and heads of Wall Street's largest houses. Later, the House of Representatives will begin separate investigations under the direction of Mr John Dingell, who described the recommendations of the Brady Report as being "too mild".

This response was the main reason the NYSE instituted the curbs, which will be lifted at the end of this week. It hopes to convince a nervous public that it is taking steps to fill the gaps in the system exposed by the Brady Report.

It is unclear whether these initiatives will be sufficient. Had the Presidential report not been issued on a day when Wall Street plunged another 140 points, the outcome would have been more predictable. Congress would have avoided a strong regulatory response in a Presidential election year.

But the huge drop on January 9 highlighted the most chilling conclusion of the Brady Report - that, in October, the entire financial system almost broke down

under the weight of sell orders, an estimated \$20 billion over three days, by a handful of large institutional investors.

The question of adequate liquidity was skirted in the Brady report but officials later said that the exchange floor specialists, who are supposed to maintain orderly markets, were grossly undercapitalized.

These are the themes which stunned Wall Street and galvanized an angry Congress.

Mr John Phelan, the president of the NYSE, reacted to the hostility last week when he appealed to big institutional investors to exercise restraint. He appeared on a panel in which powerful Congressmen described the "greed and lack of morality" among the big institutions.

"Surely they have learnt a lesson from this about their responsibility to the market and to other investors, and will avoid similar trading patterns in the future," Mr Phelan said on national television. But he acknowledged that there was no system in place at present to prevent a similar crash.

But as Congressional officials get down to the specific business of regulation, they reveal sharp divisions. Although most agree there is a

need for a stronger regulatory structure, there is disagreement over whether the US Federal Reserve Board should take the lead, or whether it should be the SEC, or whether there should be a brand-new agency. This issue is not likely to be resolved this year.

On the issue of margin requirements, however, there appears to be a growing consensus that stock index futures should be subjected to either the same 50 per cent margin applied to shares or to something close to that level. In any case, most legislators agree that the present 10 per cent margin requirement is grossly inadequate.

There is also disagreement on the controversial issue of daily trading limits. Wall Street is adamantly opposed to the imposition of limits, but there are supporters in Congress for a modified form of trading limits similar to those being explored by the NYSE.

Most officials in the futures industry expect their freedom to be curtailed sharply as a result of the Brady Report. Officials said that they feared the report would lead to the abolition of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, which has regulated futures with a light touch since the mid-1970s.

Banker faces hotel purchase charge

Singapore (AFP) - The manager of Standard Chartered Bank in Singapore and a leading businessman were charged in court yesterday in connection with the purchase of controlling stakes in the Hyatt Hotel here.

Two charges each against Mr Michael Raymond Taylor, the British banker, and Mr Allan Ng, the Singapore businessman, cited violation of the Companies Act in telling the Securities Industry Council (SIC) that they had not discussed the purchase plan before it was declared to the stock exchange.

Both men denied the charges, which each carry penalties of up to \$10,000 (£2,770) in fines and two years jail.

Mr Liew Thiam Leng, District Judge, adjourned the case to February 8 after ordering Mr Taylor to furnish bail of \$150,000 and Mr Ng a bond of \$20,000.

Mr Ng, who resigned as deputy chairman of United Overseas Bank to go into business in 1985, was charged in court 10 days ago with

insider trading in the transaction. He was released on bail of \$150,000 after his arrest last July.

In yesterday's case, the January 1987 sale involved Monasia Investment shares mortgaged with Standard Chartered, accounting for 23.3 per cent interest in Seahon Hotels - whose main asset is the Hyatt - to Mr Ng's First City Holdings for about \$152.7 million.

Prosecutors said the two men misled the SIC by saying First City had not discussed the purchase with the bank

before the hotel's sale.

They also allegedly told the SIC that First City had not discussed business plans for Seahon Hotels before Seahon informed the stock exchange that Monasia had disposed of its shares.

Mr Ng, aged 46, was arrested on July 19, by the Finance Ministry's Commercial Affairs Department. The first charge against him alleged that the Seahon purchase had been made on the strength of price-sensitive information not available to others.

Thatcher boost for Hanson

The private and powerful friendships that influence Britain's corridors of power are laid bare. Honouring Lord Hanson, and Sir Gordon White, linchpins of industrial conglomerate Hanson, in a fashion rarely deemed fit for individual companies, Margaret Thatcher last night attended a dinner for some 80 or so American analysts - over here to inspect Hanson's British operations - at the Guildhall. Guest speaker was Sir Gordon, who, in his capacity as head of Hanson's American operations, apparently suggested the two-day trip. The star appearance by Mrs Thatcher, all but hero-worshipped in the US, should certainly do wonders for the company's rating on Wall Street - where it received a quote in November last year. Hanson - the company, that is - is, I'm told, picking up the tab for the trip but, true to form, is getting its money's worth. The analysts, flown in on Sunday evening, sat through presentations by Hanson's British directors yesterday morning, its American managers yesterday afternoon, and will attend the annual meeting at the Barbican today before going home this afternoon.

Hedunnit

Redundant market makers, unhappy with the consequences of Big Bang, will be able to collar the man who set the ball rolling, Energy Secretary Cecil Parkinson, at the USM annual dinner on March

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

The face is familiar ...

Strange are the twists and turns of fate. In 1977, Walker, Britoil's chief executive, last found himself fighting off an unwelcome bid from BP, his old employer. For eight years, until 1977, Walker worked for BP in Alaska. Then, when the Prudhoe Bay oil field came onstream, the Alaskan operations were merged into Standard Oil, (Sohio as it then was), and Walker returned to Britain to become BP's regional co-ordinator in the

Western Hemisphere. Eventually, becoming Chief Executive of BP, with responsibility for its North Sea operations, until he left to join Britoil three years ago. If it succeeds in taking over Britoil, BP says that the chief executive of the merged North Sea operations will be based in Britoil's Glasgow headquarters. Walker comments wryly: "I don't think they'll give the job to me."

1. Parkinson, a far-from-popular figure these days in certain City circles, is, I hear, to be the guest speaker at the awards dinner.

The team of judges - Blue



"Wait till they find out the date offices are closed on Saturday mornings."

Arrow chairman Tony Berry, Deloitte partner Graham Cole, Bill Hishop of Cannon Street Investments, Evening Standard City editor Tony Hilton and USM Magazine editor Ian Riegal - which will select the USM company of the year, entrepreneur of the year and suchlike, has now been brightened by the addition of Debbie Moore, of Pineapple fame.

Road attacks

Monopoly, the board game that has amused sitting-room property tycoons for generations, is being threatened by change. News from across the Atlantic is that one of the streets used in the US version is to be renamed. From Monday, Illinois Avenue, the Atlantic City thoroughfare, will be called Martin Luther King Boulevard, a move likely to upset many local residents

Oilman Goldsmith?

Could it be that Sir James Goldsmith - the man who has gone down in the history books for liquidating his stock market holdings a month or two before the crash - is on the brink of buying again? According to rumours on Wall Street yesterday, three names are being tipped to bid for troubled oil giant Texaco - Royal Dutch/Shell and Sir James. Aware that his re-entry into stocks and shares would be a significant and bullish gesture for markets around the world, Goldsmith has been maintaining an uncharacteristically low profile of late. But with a break-up value of around \$12 billion, a large chunk of Texaco would certainly be well within his reach. Even if he doesn't make an outright bid, and turns out to be simply arbitraging oil-sector watchers in the US think his actions could flush out any other potential bidders. With his taste for making a fast buck on the stock market once again resuscitated, there would then, methinks, be no stopping him ...

How valuable is all that investment advice City analysts churn out? In an editorial circular published last week, the four-man team at Scrippsmead Vickers says of GEC: "Traders should continue to buy when it is cheap and sell when it is dear."

Carol Leonard

Lorrho Plc, Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BL

TECHNOLOGY

PERSPECTIVE

DTI's plans for research are coolly received

A more favourable response might have been expected to the measures announced by the Department of Trade and Industry for a complete overhaul of the Government's approach to support for industrial research and the development of technology, instead of the grudging, lukewarm reception it received.

For the measures outlined in the White Paper go a long way to answering the barrage of criticism over the Government's alleged failure to appreciate the connection between R&D and economic growth.

Britain has been accused of technological myopia, while her major industrial competitors share a simple, fundamental and very different focus in recognising the link between research and development, a healthy balance of trade in manufactured goods and a better standard of living.

A persistent critic of the DTI's policies, Mr. Amadeo Turner welcomed the new ones by saying: "There has been a revolution in the DTI's thinking."

But he believes the change in direction is not matched by enough money to put the new policies into effect.

He said: "So although the DTI has changed direction, it will only move slowly, compared with our competitors."

Mr. Turner, who is a Euro MP for Suffolk and South-East Cambridgeshire, and a patent lawyer, said: "We are at last pointing in the same direction as the United States, Japan, West Germany and France."

But one aspect of the new policy causes him concern. He believes it will stifle innovation by small firms.

Mr. Turner is a fervent advocate of forging industrial links between European firms so that they can join in so-called "pre-competitive" research and development.

He is absolutely certain that competition in high technology from America and Japan can only be met by forging European industrial alliances in pre-competitive research and development.

His conviction about the need to support pre-competitive research that establishes a new technology, as opposed to giving money for the development of a specific industrial product or process that comes afterwards, fuelled

his campaign against the Government last year.

He challenged the British attitude to EEC negotiations over the five-year European collaborative research and development scheme known as Framework, which includes the £2 billion information technology programme, and its Esprit II, and another venture covering telecommunications, called Race.

They are major pre-competitive R&D programmes designed to produce enabling technologies throughout Europe for their respective industries.

An even bleaker picture emerges from a new study by the Electronic Engineering Association. That attributes



Amadeo Turner, who discusses with Pearce Wright the implications of the Government's plans to reconcile the needs of economic growth and research and development

the reversal in Britain's trade balance in manufactured goods largely to a decline in industrial R&D. Of course, the deficit in manufactured goods is a source of anxiety to the United States.

Yet the Americans have sustained a level of industrial R&D almost 10 times higher than other countries. This year industrial R&D in the United States is expected to exceed \$50 billion, with over \$35 billion paid for by private industry.

Nevertheless, the decline of competitiveness of Britain's trade in high technology goods, with the exception of aerospace, follows closely on the downward trend in spending on R&D.

As a result, it is increasingly likely that components and systems designed, engineered and manufactured abroad, are shipped from all parts of the world into the UK for the assembly of cars or refrigerators, computers, microchips or nuclear power plant



Something intriguing here, surely? The object of interest for these girls peering through a protected window in the West End is something unique for that part of London. So what is the connection with technology? All is revealed in Page 33

The microchip with the power to cancel out those 'noises off'

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The background interference that makes conversations from public telephone boxes virtually impossible because of the rumble of vehicle engines and general street noise will soon be a thing of the past. The invention that will get rid of the unwanted sounds is known as noise cancellation, or the production of anti-noise.

Dr. Michael Trinder, the leader of a team of scientists which has been working on the development for 10 years, expects the method to be used for protecting hearing in noisy conditions in industry, to reduce the noise in aircraft cabins and to cut sounds from vehicle exhausts.

Dr. Trinder's group at the Wolfson Centre at Essex University, is one of the world leaders in analysing the causes of unwanted noise and devising ways to combat it.

They do it by generating antinoise that cancels out the roar of engines, the whine of industrial fans and power transformers and the throb of heavy machinery, while leaving desired sounds as sharp and clear as ever.

The Essex University team has conquered background noise that disrupts telephone conversations by incorporating a microchip into the handset. It generates pulses of antinoise in the earpiece, cancelling out the unwanted sounds.

In other applications, being

studied by industry and for military applications, the antinoise is fed through earmuffs.

Dr. Trinder said: "What we call noise is only sound we would rather not hear at all. Until recently, the only way of reducing it was to use passive techniques such as silencers and soundproofing. But they tend to take up a lot of space."

He likens sound waves, which are a series of increases and decreases in air pressure which follow each other in rapid succession, to the ripples produced when a stone is thrown in a pool. When the air pressure variations strike the ear drum they are perceived as sound.

If another sequence of pressure changes, which is an exact mirror image of the sound pressure changes, can be generated at the ear drum they cancel each other out.

The significance of this is that there is no pressure change at all - in effect there is silence.

Although it sounds straightforward, the trick of exploiting the theory of anti-noise depends on very advanced computer methods to analyse the components of different types of noise.

The studies employ a long-established mathematical technique, known as Fourier analysis, for breaking down any regular wave motions of any vibration whatsoever: mechanical, audio, light, electricity.

However, Fourier analysis came into its own in the 1960s with the advent of ever-cheaper, powerful computers and the perfection of software to perform a version of the technique, called the fast Fourier transform.

Today a clever computer program can dissect a complex noise into 1,024 separate frequencies in a fraction of a second, revealing underlying harmonics that can often be close to complex phenomena in the world of hearing.

An unusual spin-off of such work is the ability to distinguish between Africanized, or "killer," bees and domestic ones. Now in Mexico and moving northward at a rate of 200 miles a year, Africanized bees appear almost identical to domestic species but are much more aggressive and unpredictable.

Previously, they could be identified only through tedious examination by microscope. But Oak Ridge researchers suspected that killer bees beat their wings at a different frequency than domestic ones, in theory allowing their detection through noise analysis. So they tracked down tape recordings of Africanized bees.

The scientists went to Venezuela for a field test in identifying Africanized bees using Fourier analysis. The method proved so effective that the researchers are racing to perfect and patent a portable detection device, hoping it will be marketed commercially and used to help track and control the bees' spread in North America.

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TECHNOLOGY

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in lasers
for UK
industry

British industry has taken a world lead in the field of medical-laser technology. The goal is to stimulate particular applications of these devices, where the laser promises to revolutionize surgery.

The development comes with the creation of a new company called Living Technology, which has been created by Pilkington Medical Systems and BOC Health Care.

It combines their expertise in the development of medical systems.

Eye surgery has been one of the great beneficiaries of the laser beam for treatments such as replacing detached retinas.

But the Living Technology team is extending its work with doctors to perfect special laser systems to treat deep-seated serious diseases, including cancers and heart disease, and in the use of fibre optics to direct the laser energy on lesions.

Michael Holmes, a director of the new company, is confident that continuing research is expected to yield new breakthroughs in these areas over the next two years.



Why is this man luring so many sightseers?

By Frank Brown
London's latest tourist attraction is a small computer-controlled manufacturing plant.

The CD Factory, as it is called, makes compact discs in full view of customers in one of Oxford Street's busiest shops, the vast Virgin record store in Tottenham Court Road. From behind a glass screen, the public can watch CD production processes being carried out, with colour monitors explaining each process. Said to be the

world's first factory in a retail store, Virgin insists it is no gimmick, but a genuine manufacturing line.

It produces discs sequentially rather than by traditional batch production methods and can produce a compact disc every 10 seconds, or about 5,500 a day on a three-shift basis. The CDs will cost £8.99 - £2 or £3 less than most current ones, says Virgin's founder, Richard Branson.

Extensive computer control and disc-fabrication techniques have been

used to make it about half the size of conventional CD production lines, and about half the cost - £750,000 compared with around £1.5 million.

As the newly-moulded discs emerge, they are automatically transferred by robot arms to a machine which puts an ultra-thin film of aluminium over the music to provide the reflective surface CD players need to "read" it.

In use, a CD player reads the music by shining a laser beam through the disc so that it reflects off the indicated

metallic surface. Further robotic systems transfer the metallized discs to a bagging machine and on to a two-colour screen-printing machine where they are automatically labelled and stacked, ready for transfer to Virgin's record packing plant near Heathrow Airport.

Mr Branson hopes the plant will give Virgin an edge over its competitors by enabling it to manufacture new-release CDs on-site in advance of main production runs.

Britain shows off
its new ideas
at the big show

By Geoff Wheelwright

What will probably be the largest British business computing exhibition of the year opens its doors today at the Birmingham National Exhibition Centre with the expectation of a host of new products from many of the large firms.

Most plans focus on the release of either larger and more powerful computer printers based on laser technology or faster and higher-capacity computers that use the 386 computer processor chip.

Perhaps the biggest surprise is what Amstrad is not announcing. Many industry observers have been predicting the company will show its version of the powerful PC's based on the 286 computer processor, which would be a logical follow-on from Amstrad's successful range of low-cost machines.

Instead, the company is showing completed models of the portable computers it announced and showed in pre-production form last October - as well as some software that will be included.

These programs include word-processing, diary and

limited computer database functions with Amstrad counting on it being the something extra to help it crack the notoriously difficult portable computer market.

It will, however, have a tough time as there is stiff competition from the likes of Japanese giant Toshiba which over the past two years has released low-cost and well-constructed portable computers that can use IBM PC software.

This year Toshiba is concentrating on a £3,000 laser printer. It is another crowded market. Hewlett-Packard and Apple have an estimated 60 per cent of the laser printer market - one of the fastest-growing sales areas in the personal computers.

Hewlett-Packard have the lion's share of this as Apple's Laserwriter range is primarily designed for use with its Macintosh.

Visitors to the show can expect the continuing onward march of the low-cost, Far East clone computers that provide IBM PC-style power at consumer electronics prices.

Right
face to
show
world

By Darrell Ince

One of the most persistent and enduring myths in software development is that if you deliver a system that meets all the functions required by a user, then you have succeeded.

However, what is often forgotten on software projects, is that software functions are just one component of a system, albeit an important one, but that an equally important part of a software product is the face it presents to the world - the "interface" between humans and computers.

In information technology there is a long and sorry history of products failing because their face is unfriendly, inconsistent and ambiguous.

A number of national research and development programmes such as Esprit and Alvey have highlighted the importance of good interface design. This is now being recognized by software developers and, consequently, is beginning to give rise to job opportunities for staff with a wide variety of skills.

In the past we have tended to regard the human-computer interface as a small part of an overall system. The primitive nature of the input/output devices that were used in the Sixties and Seventies left little scope for flexibility.

Importance of Interface design

Almost invariably, a few simple commands typed in at a terminal were the only facilities available to the system user. The increased availability of advanced interfaces involving icons, mouses and pull-down menus, together with future devices such as CD ROM and video, has placed, and will place, much more of a burden on designers, to the point where it becomes a specialized task within the software project.

There is now a major demand for staff who have the skills necessary to design complicated interfaces.

The tasks that such staff carry out are critical as they are often the first to see the customer. Consequently, they require many of the skills traditionally associated with systems analysis.

Typically, such staff require a grounding in a wide variety of disciplines; they must be cognitive psychologists, ergonomists, graphic designers, social investigators and software engineers, with the first four being the important skills, as an increasing number of products are becoming available which enable advanced designs to be prototyped relatively easily, without a large amount of software knowledge.

Interface design offers a chance for graduates who would not normally think of working on software projects, to play a major part in the development of complex software.

Because the technical software skills required from such staff are of a quite low level it offers job opportunities for graduates from any discipline.

Government casts a
cold eye on research

By Robert Matthews and Pearce Wright

Last week's White Paper on the future direction of the Department of Trade and Industry's policies is neatly summed up in the declaration it makes that "in future, the DTI will only contribute funds to research which would not and could not go ahead without some support from the taxpayer".

Altogether, the DTI's budget for innovation has been increased by about 10 per cent to £210 million. However, that masks the disappearance of a raft of R&D schemes formerly enjoying the backing of the Government.

In addition, the DTI has made clear that there are no plans to exploit IT technology developed by the joint university-industry teams set up during the highly-successful Alvey programme.

In 1986, a report to the Government by Sir Austin 'ide recommended that the Government should spend £450 million on such a follow-up programme over five years.

A new national IT initiative is to get just £29 million from the DTI over the next three years, with £55 million over five years coming from the Science and Engineering Research Council.

However, the White Paper says that combined with £200 million being spent on the European IT programme, Esprit II, the total package constitutes "very substantial support for collaborative research in IT".

The IT initiative will be funded out of the money saved by the axing of support for individual companies with R&D projects close to commercial exploitation.

A similar initiative for research into superconductivity is to get £8 million over the next three years.

'It is sensible to call for better tech transfer'

Also gone in the shake-up are the Microelectronics Industry Support Programme, the Support for Software Products and the Fibreoptics and Optoelectronics schemes.

Reaction to the White Paper has been mixed, with some welcoming the strong emphasis that the DTI is to put on encouraging collaboration both within and beyond the UK.

Alan Carnell, commercial

director of Rascal-Decon, said: "It is a sensible philosophy to call for more and better technology transfer, more effective use of academic and industrial resources through collaborative R&D, and innovation by smaller firms."

But he said it needed more than exhortation and the White Paper begged the question of how this was to be achieved.

The Electronic Engineering Association was disappointed by the continued freeze on Government spending on space technology. But it welcomed the decision to confirm the UK's contribution to Esprit II.

British electronics firms will be competing for over 18 per cent of the Esprit contracts by the time the invitations to tender close next month.

Academic institutions involved in the Alvey programme recognize that the absence of Alvey II means that they will have to seek wider collaboration with industry, and aim at substantial involvement in Esprit II.

A spokesman for Imperial College, which had more Alvey projects than any other, said "we're disappointed, but we are not going to just sit down and moan."

City pay rates up,
slowdown likely

SALARIES

By Matthew May

Computer specialists in the City of London saw their salaries increase at a faster rate than their counterparts in other areas last year.

A survey from Computer Economics and Post Marwick McLintock predicts that high-tech staff may see their rapid rise in earnings slow "as the telephone number bonus payments are cut back following the Stock Exchange crash."

But, it says, technical specialists who have good reputations and are also knowledgeable about their company's business will still command a premium. Skills in

project leadership are also still greatly in demand to make sure that City computer systems are well-developed and consolidated.

City pay for specialists tends to be 20 per cent to 33 per cent above the national average and has been rising at more than 16 per cent a year compared with 12 per cent for staff in similar positions in the rest of the country.

Data-processing managers are doing best with average City salaries of more than £43,000 - a third higher than the average of nearer £32,000.

City computer staff are often on average a year or two younger than their counterparts elsewhere. The report cites accelerated promotion prospects as a contributory factor.

Managers of:	National average (£)	City average (£)	Per cent difference
Data processing	32348	43061	33
Systems development	27495	34522	25
Computer services	27157	35002	32
Systems	23734	28561	20
Programming	22490	28180	25
Systems and programming	24065	31767	32
Operations	21469	26551	24
Technical support	23079	29496	28
Communications	22875	29278	28
Information centre	21841	26776	23

Source: Computer Economics



Richard McDaniel of Argonne National Laboratory pouring liquid nitrogen into the world's first electric motor based on the unique properties of high-temperature superconductors

Building of
the first
super motor

By Robert Matthews

The building by America's Argonne National Laboratory of the world's first motor that exploits the revolutionary ceramic superconductors has highlighted the possible large-scale applications of these unique materials.

Until now, most of the attention has been focussed on the possibility of making electronic components such as chip interconnects and Josephson junction ultra-fast switches out of the ceramics, which lose all their electrical resistance when chilled with liquid nitrogen. Argonne's 50 revolution-a-minute motor gives a glimpse of just how much broader the impact of these materials will be.

The device exploits the so-called Meissner effect, whereby superconductors repel any magnetic field that comes close to them. The 8.5in. aluminium disc has 24 electromagnets fixed to its rim, and spins over a bath of liquid nitrogen in which two hockey-puck sized chunks of yttrium-based superconducting ceramic are immersed.

As each electromagnet approaches one of the chunks, electric current is fed to it, producing a magnetic field. This is repelled by the superconductor, which gives a push to the entire disc, bringing the next electromagnet into place to repeat the process.

The Argonne scientists freely admit that their motor is little more than a technology demonstrator. Motors capable of useful power output are unlikely for a few years yet, says Dr Roger Poeppel, manager of the laboratory's department of ceramics.

Dr Poeppel says the value of the "Meissner motor" is in helping engineers work out the properties the materials need to have useful, large-scale applications.

This is a critical problem with the new materials, which are very friable, and have a tendency to lose all their superconductivity when exposed to high magnetic fields, or more than a certain amount of electric current. The reason

large-scale applications for ceramic superconductors are likely to be later in coming than those for electronics is that the critical currents needed to be met are about 100 times higher. The strains created inside an electromagnet could also be enough to crush one made from relatively weak ceramic.

A study carried out for the Department of Trade and Industry estimated that such demands mean that power-generating products are likely to be at least a decade away, whereas electronic components could be available four or five years from now.

Dr Poeppel says that production versions of a superconducting motor would aim to make more of the abilities of the ceramics than just the Meissner effect. For example, using superconducting wire in the motor would enable much higher magnetic fields to be generated for a given amount of electric current, giving greater motive power.

The Argonne motor may be the first moving demonstration of the power of the new materials, but it is certainly not the world's first superconducting motor. The accolade for that development belongs to scientists at Britain's NEI International Research and Development company in Newcastle, who built such a motor using conventional metal superconductors, which demand expensive liquid helium, in 1966.

By 1971 they had developed a 3,250 horse-power motor which triggered off development programmes in the US, the USSR and Japan. However, it failed to prove its economic worth.

Some British scientists dismiss the Argonne work as little more than a publicity stunt that anyone could do, if they had the inclination. But if nothing else, the apparent simplicity of the Meissner motor serves to show just how much superconductivity technology has been transformed by the discovery of the ceramics.

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Please send me my free copy of "So you want a job in Computers"
Name (Mr/Ms/Miss) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ Tel No: _____
Present Occupation _____ Age _____

Head of IT

Central London
c £30,000 + significant benefits

The National Audit Office (NAO), an independent public organisation, is planning to rationalise and expand its use of information technology. This will include central administrative and office systems, and the provision of information systems and computerised audit support tools for the NAO's 650 professional audit staff.

A Head of Information and Office Systems is required to plan and control implementation of the new NAO information systems strategy including drafting of the operational requirement for a new office system; selection of suppliers and the development of new or replacement systems.

Applicants will have a proven record in the introduction and running of office systems and supporting local area networks, particularly in a mini-computer environment, and a specialist knowledge of current trends in information technology. They must also be aware of system development methods, possess good communication skills, and have the capacity to work on their own initiative. They should be able to work in a challenging professional audit environment.

This appointment is initially for a period of three years, with scope for extension. The NAO is an equal opportunities employer.

Benefits include help with relocation expenses where appropriate, a performance-related bonus, non-contributory index-linked pension; free life assurance, interest free season ticket loan and a subsidised staff restaurant.

Applications, with full CV and details of present remuneration, should be addressed to:

NAO
NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

Michael Bland
Recruitment Officer, National Audit Office
157-197 Buckingham Palace Road
Victoria
London SW1W 9SP

INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

West End

c. £25,000 + benefits

Our client is the London-based subsidiary of an investment group, whose business involves managing portfolios and investment in securities; foreign exchange; and money markets. For front- and back-office support, an IBM System 38 has recently been installed, running the IBS banking package.

The individual we now seek will supervise the day-to-day DP activities, develop and enhance the system as necessary and liaise with users and outside vendors. Possessing the drive to succeed in a small company, he/she should need no encouragement to participate in other company activities e.g. administration, accounts, dealing room services.

In your mid-twenties to early thirties, you are versatile, flexible and able to work on your own initiative. Educated to degree level, you will have a minimum of 4 years experience in business applications of IT, having been involved in analysis, design and implementation of systems. Sound IBM System 38 knowledge is essential, and experience of banking or financial services and packages is preferable. Probably in a project or team leader role currently, you must be able to supervise others and communicate well at all levels.

This is an excellent opportunity for a dedicated individual to play a key role in the long-term establishment of new technology in a small but ambitious organisation.

To apply for this position, please send a full c.v. in confidence quoting ref. TT4168 to Sally Thomas at the address below. Alternatively, contact her by telephone:

*weekdays between 9.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on 01-629-7594
*evenings and weekends on 01-643-3356.



Barry Latchford Associates
10 Sedley Place, Mayfair, London W1R 1HG

Tel: (01) 629 7594

GREYTHORN

SPECIALISTS IN PC PEOPLE

'C' PROGRAMMERS Up to £17,000

One of our multi-national clients are desperately in need of 'C' Programmers to join their rapidly expanding departments. As a 'C' Programmer you will be required to develop new systems on various IBM compatible machines. The database tool used is DataFit and the interface language 'C'. All applicants must have a good standard of education and be at least 25 years of age. If you have a sound knowledge of DOS, at least 1 year's experience of 'C' and this position is of interest to you, then we look forward to hearing from you.

SUPPORT ANALYST £18,000 + Banking Benefits

Working for a major English merchant bank in the City, you will be responsible for providing support to all PC user staff. Assisting Corporate Finance executives demands that your presentation, interpersonal skills and technical background are of the highest standard. Candidates with a good DP background, at least 2 year's experience of PC development, including at least a year's analysis experience, can expect high rewards. It is unlikely that anybody under 25 years of age will qualify.

SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT £13,000-£14,000

This prestigious firm of City Solicitors are implementing a complete PC network with over 200 terminals. Young applicants are needed to develop and support this system and, therefore, must be smart, bright and adaptable and able to work on their own initiative. A good general PC background is essential and experience of Telecom Gold and DisplayWrite 4 would be a distinct advantage. This is a superb opportunity to use your PC skills in an exciting development environment.

The above vacancies represent only a small sample of our current opportunities. We have a wide range of other positions available including Analysts/Programmers, Support, Sales Reps, Trainers and Consultants. If you require any further information as to how you can improve your employment prospects, please do not hesitate to call.

GREYTHORN
SPECIALISTS IN PC PEOPLE
133 High Holborn WC1V 6PS
Tel: 01-331 9599

WORD PROCESSING TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Salary circa £9,000 + bonuses

Ace, Microsystems, producers of the highly successful Word Processing Software LEX, are looking for an additional person to join their Customer Training and Support Department.

The position involves end-user training, both at our offices or the customer's providing support to our users and dealing with general enquiries. Full training will be provided by a small team already geared to these tasks.

The successful applicant should have Word Processing experience and a current driving licence. Any further knowledge of computers in general will be an advantage.

Send detailed c.v. to:
Patricia O'Flanagan
Ace Microsystems Ltd
Kew Bridge House
Kew Bridge
Brentwood
Middlesex TW8 0EJ

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER

Harrison & Jones is a Group of companies operating from a number of sites in England and Wales and is principally engaged in the manufacture of flexible polyurethane foam. We are about to embark on a major re-computerisation programme based around IBM system 36 Technology and for this we require an experienced Management Information Systems Manager, probably aged 30+.

This is a new position based at our head office near Manchester, although there may be a need to travel to other operating sites. Applicants should have extensive experience of IBM36 and RPG11 language and a knowledge of personal computers and basic language. Suitable applicants must also be capable systems analysts with industrial experience and be able to communicate at all levels, reporting directly to a Main Board Director.

The remuneration and benefits package which will include a company car will reflect the seniority and importance of the position.

Please apply to:
Mr B. Rawlinson, Director
The Harrison & Jones Group Limited
Swan Mill, Foxdemon Lane
Middlewich, Cheshire
Manchester M24 1QR



PROGRAMMERS AND ANALYSTS

Free list of jobs to £20,000

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Telephone 01 808 3050

PROGRAMMERS & ANALYSTS

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To £20,000

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Tel: 07375 51217

D/COMMS

Sw Engrs £15K UK/Europe

May benefits inc choice of Car

Cost Engrs £12.5K + car (UK)

Int Engrs £10K (UK)

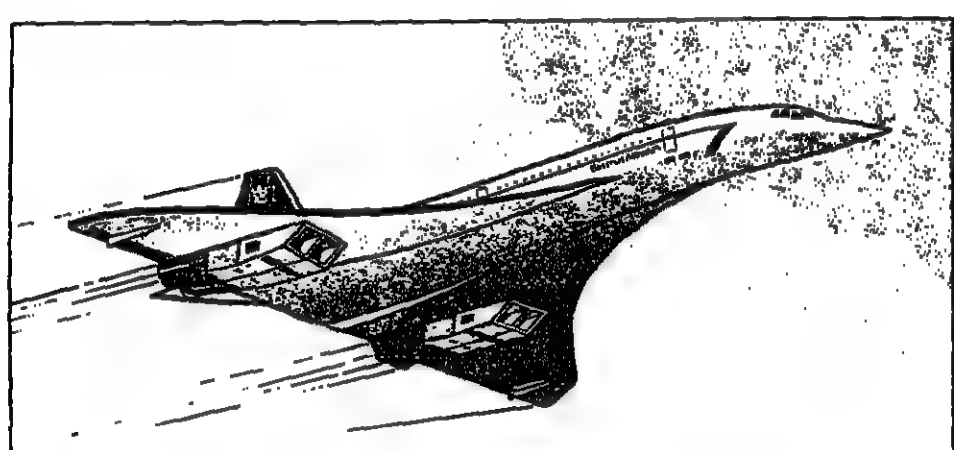
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Based 5 Home Counties -

International IBM Support

System 36/38 £20K

Tel 01-656 6931 Agg



There's no secret to the British Airways success story.

... a success that's been achieved by putting customers first and anticipating their every need. To do this we rely on the people we recruit to maintain our reputation for excellence. Effective use of the most up-to-date IT systems plays a crucial role in all our operations and we are now looking for dedicated professionals to join our Engineering Department at Heathrow.

We have a complex set of interactive systems that allows us to co-ordinate the engineering service provided to both our fleet and many other airlines.

To improve upon the systems already in operation (including some of the largest IMS systems in Europe) we are introducing new systems to help us optimise the use of both aircraft and staff; assist in planning and cost control and ensure that aircraft faults are cleared promptly. This enables us to maintain our aircraft to the highest levels of safety, passenger comfort and service.

Now we need additional enthusiastic, self-motivated computer professionals capable of working to strict deadlines, with the vision to match our own and the ambition to continue their career at the leading edge of IT applications.

Business Analysts £18-£28K

You'll be working closely with our Engineering Department, using structured analysis techniques, to identify their business needs and translate them into working systems solutions. You must have a highly developed commercial instinct, excellent all-round communication skills, proven systems analysis experience and the ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment. Graduate calibre applicants should have at least 7 years' DP experience. Reference AS/433/41.

Project Managers £18-£28K

You'll be managing the teams that will design, produce and implement these systems. Your career should have progressed through programming and systems analysis to team leadership and project management. Your approach must be results orientated and you'll have seen at least one major project through to completion. Experience in an IBM PL/I IMS environment would be an advantage. Again graduate calibre applicants should have at least 7 years' DP experience. Reference AS/433/41.

Programmers & Analysts £11-£18K

You'll be a member of a programming team in an environment which is mainly PL/I and IMS DB/DC, using Mustron and TSO, although there will be some exposure to FORTRAN and PCs. We are looking for career orientated professionals with a minimum of 18 months practical programming experience gained in a commercial or industrial environment using a high level language. Knowledge of PL/I and IMS DB/DC would be an advantage, but retraining is available to those with skills in similar languages such as Cobol, Fortran or Pascal. Reference AS/433/42.

For all the above positions we are offering a competitive salary, together with benefits which include profit sharing, holiday bonus, favourable holiday travel opportunities, flextime and excellent sports and social facilities.

If you are interested in becoming part of the British Airways success story, please write with a full cv, quoting the appropriate reference number to: Recruitment & Selection, British Airways Plc, "Meadowbank", PO Box 59, Hounslow TW5 9QX.

BRITISH AIRWAYS

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Switched-on print salesman... for one of Britain's most dynamic direct mail print houses

Target earnings: £20,000 p.a. upwards, depending on experience. Plus company car, bonus, private health cover for you and your family.

Energetic, organised, with exceptional drive and enthusiasm, you'll probably be aged between 25 and 40. You'll already have a natural flair for selling print, with proven success record and nationwide contacts. Preferably (but not essentially) you will have had laser print selling knowledge.

Your job will be to sell high quality laser printing - not only for mailing letters, but for laser forms, inserts, stationery and literature of all kinds. You will be moving fast - and moving up - in Britain's fastest growing marketing sector. And for one of the most progressive and successful direct mail database and print houses in the country. We've doubled our turnover every year for the past six years.

The potential's tremendous. Your prospect's exciting. Interested? Then write today, with your CV to: Miss Marilyn Hendlerman, Personnel Officer, Computer Letters Ltd., 164 Union Street, (1st Floor), London, SE1 0LH. Or phone 01-928 2673 for an appointment.

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Salaries c. 15k + bonus and car. Location London (City).

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Also many field service engineer vacancies.

Call David Atwell at

Tony Powell

01 994 6477.

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COBOL PROGRAMMING COURSE

An exciting opportunity to apply for this Manpower Services Commission funded Application Programming course commencing 19th February, for the City and Guild 417 certificate and a job.

Eligible students will receive training, travel expenses and subsistence allowances.

90% of our students get jobs in this exciting profession.

Telephone now for an appointment interview.

01-778 8322

COMPUTER INSIGHT LIMITED

159 High Street, London SE20 7DS.

Reference COS7.

TWO PROJECT MANAGERS

(c£30,000 pa + package)

Digitus has a substantial record in the implementation of turnkey systems in database and distributed applications and is considerably concerned with 'bridging' systems and software. The company now seeks two additional, professional Project Managers - preferably with experience in IBM, DEC, Unix and/or Pick in Systems House or major user environments. Familiarity with, or aspiration to, use 4th Generation Tools will be advantageous.

One will be able to deputise for the Head of Production - and be capable of managing a number of teams and tasks at one time. The other will be single minded in driving through projects to a successful, on-time/in-budget conclusion and see career development in building 'bigger and better systems'.

Both will identify with quality and be determined in their search for excellence. Their approach to estimating, standards and development methodology will be uncompromising. They will have the intellectual capacity to quickly assimilate information and act decisively - winning the respect of their colleagues and Digitus clients alike. Personal communication, personnel management and planning skills are essential.

Please write (marking your application 'Confidential - PMT'), with details you consider relevant, to:

Clive Wootton, Managing Director
Digitus Ltd, 16-17 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1R 0AA

Digitus

HORIZONS

A guide to
career choicePlease talk to the temp,
she may be a stranger

It was bitterly cold; a fine white sleet was being driven against our windows by a fierce southerly gale, and the weatherman was cheerfully predicting worse to come.

Although it was only late autumn in Adelaide, South Australia's capital, we were already experiencing record-breaking cold, freak snowfalls and fierce storms.

David, my husband, and I had talked for some time about escaping the nine to five routine, to travel and work overseas. But the weather was creating more depressions than those on the isobar charts.

It was only eight weeks between the day we decided to buy our tickets to Britain and the day we boarded the plane. In between came a frantic round of farewell parties and lunches and the inevitable hassles of moving furniture, relocating pets, finding a tenant, arranging travel documents and tying up loose ends at the office.

The decision to go away so soon created a few more problems for David, who was in the final stages of studying for his Bachelor of Education. However, his lecturers agreed to let him finish his studies externally, by sending his assignments to him overseas.

We arrived in London at about 7 o'clock on a wet July morning, but at least the weather was better than it had been at home.

For the next few months we travelled; a couple of weeks in the South-west, a couple more to drive north as far as the dramatic Glencoe Pass, and then a month or more in France and Italy.

At the end of September we returned to London, and a friend who was about to leave for a two month holiday in Australia lent us her flat, a base which gave us the ideal opportunity to find temporary jobs and raise much-needed extra funds, following the sudden drop in the exchange rate for the Australian dollar.

But money was not our sole reason for seeking employment. We wanted to leave Britain with more than a tourist's impression of a great history, pomp and pageantry.

Travelling cheaply, staying in youth hostels and visiting tourist attractions, it is easy to meet no one but other travellers. There is nothing wrong with that — the variety of people you come across is half the fun, and by talking with them you learn about their countries.

But once you become settled into that routine, you are in danger of never really getting to know the country you are staying in. David and I felt very strongly that the only way of beginning to do that was by becoming involved in the day to day life as much as possible.

Liz Kellaway, fresh from Australia on a short visit, recalls the pitfalls and traumas of working as a temporary typist in a busy London office

If you are lucky enough to know a family and can stay with them, that helps enormously. Working is another way.

I am a journalist, and that is the only job I have ever done, so I wanted to try something totally different, whether it was employment as a nanny, a typist, or even a cleaner. I really had no idea of how employable I was.

Selecting the names of half a dozen secretarial and nanny agencies, I made a series of telephone calls. The agencies handling nanny and companion appointments were polite, but they already had more people than they needed and I did not have the required experience.

The secretarial agencies seemed interested in my skills, and had work available immediately should I prove suitable. Having no idea if one agency was better than another, I chose a better known company with a branch in Victoria Street. It was the beginning of a valuable learning experience.

The interview began with a seemingly endless string of questions. Could I type, and if so at what speed? Could I operate a VDU or word processor and which packages could I use?

Because I could not name any specific word processor packages or VDU systems, I would have to settle for being a copy/audio typist, as long as I could type at least 50 words a minute.

Despite what other working travellers had told me, most agencies do not just settle for someone who recognized a typewriter when they saw one and could type with one finger.

On passing the tests, I found I could now earn more than an experienced metropolitan journalist in Australia.

My first day on the job was undoubtedly the worst of my life. The agency sent me to a surveyor's office, which was part of a major development project in the East End. Its typewriter was a large black monster which constantly jammed and beeped at me.

When I finally thought I was getting somewhere, the correcting ribbon ran out. My fumbling attempts to change it, without instructions, were made worse by the prying stares I was by this time evoking from the two surveyors in the

room. Six attempts and two hours later I finished my first letter.

There were no spelling mistakes or typographical errors, but I had got my boss's name wrong, and the layout was incorrect.

I swore that I would never underestimate a secretary's skills again. But I eventually cracked the machine, and the letter styles, and even the office filing system.

Another problem I found more difficult to overcome. The men I worked for were nice enough, but there was a definite gulf between us. I was a woman working in a subservient, female domain. They hardly ever spoke to me, and I was not expected to take part in general conversations. One day I walked into the office and said "Good morning" and none of them replied.

Perhaps I was over-sensitive after coming from a work environment where women and men were treated on an equal basis and staff of different ranks mingled easily both socially and professionally.

When I later met other secretaries and temporary staff, I learned that my problem was not an unusual one.

My husband also was working as a secretary, which raised more than a few eyebrows among senior male management who could not understand why he would choose to work in what they clearly saw as a lesser job.

But the female secretaries got a real buzz out of him being there and readily accepted him into their circle. He quickly learned that they were a closely knit group who gave each other strong personal support so they could cope with these attitudes.

In all fairness to my later employers, I did not come across these difficulties again, at least not in the same degree. I worked in a range of businesses as a copy/audio typist and word processor operator, and most of my superiors were friendly and helpful.

But apart from reminding me that some women are a long way from receiving recognition in the workplace, my time as a temp also taught me a great deal about Londoners and their incredible capacity to cope with life's difficulties, whether it be rush hour on the tube, or impossibly crowded shopping conditions in Oxford Street on a Saturday afternoon.

Their perseverance was dramatically illustrated on two unforgettable occasions in our brief stay — the devastating storm of October 16 and the tragic King's Cross fire. It gave us a glimpse of a strength of spirit which must have been London's salvation during the blitz of the Second World War.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

FINANCIAL

Do you have skills in
Contract Auditing?Join our newly established
Corporate Review Unit

The recently formed Corporate Review Unit has responsibility for performance reviews, management requested studies and internal audit. We are now looking to recruit an experienced

Contract Auditor

to develop this important function in accordance with CIPFA Statements. This is a new post within the Unit and the postholder will be expected to make an effective contribution to the range of professional skills and services offered.

The salary for the post is £10,980 p.a. incl. (subject to Committee approval).

Applicants should be Accounting Technicians with two years post qualification experience, self-motivated and in possession of sound communication skills.

Staff Benefits include, where appropriate:

- ★ 4 year mortgage subsidy scheme
- ★ Generous relocation scheme
- ★ Up to £30 per week lodging allowance
- ★ Free Group Life Assurance

For further details and an application form please contact the Personnel Section, Three Rivers District Council, 17/23 High Street, Rickmansworth, Herts. Telephone (0923) 776611 ext. 117. Closing date for applications is 29 January 1988.

An equal opportunity employer.

CASTLE POINT
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Treasurer

at a salary of £23,700 - £26,070 p.a.
on terms and conditions of JNC
for Chief Officers

OR

in the alternative
on a 3 year contract
at a salary of £26,070 - £28,677 p.a.
and otherwise in accordance with the
terms and conditions of the JNC
for Chief Officers

In either case a car will be provided

The present postholder retires on the 10th June, 1988. His successor will be expected to commence duties not later than the 1st June, 1988.

Applications are invited from fully qualified members of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy or equivalent for this post.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained on request by writing to the address below or by telephoning the Chief Personnel Officer on South Benfleet (0268) 792711 extension 115.

Completed application forms should be returned to the undersigned by 1st February, 1988.

A. R. NEIGHBOUR
Chief Executive and Clerk
of the Council

Castle Point District Council
Council Offices
Kila Road,
Thundersley,
Benfleet,
Essex
SS7 1TF.

National
Council for
Vocational
QualificationsACCOUNTANT
Up to £21,757

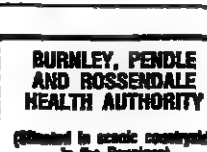
The National Council for Vocational Qualifications (NCVQ) was set up by the Government in 1986 to establish a framework for vocational qualifications. The NCVQ is a company limited by guarantee, and a registered charity. Funding is currently provided by the Government, but the NCVQ is moving towards financial self-sufficiency by 1990/91.

We are looking for an accountant who will be responsible for the development and maintenance of efficient, economic and secure financial management accounting and budgetary control systems; the introduction and operation of computerised accounting; and making an effective contribution towards the financial management of the NCVQ's activities.

Applicants should have a recognised accountancy qualification and relevant experience, including good experience of computerised accounting systems. Knowledge of Government financial procedures would be an advantage.

Salary will be on the scale £16,495-£21,757 and other benefits include a non-contributory inflation-protected pension scheme and twenty-five days annual leave.

INTERESTED? Then please apply, with CV, to Anna Orr, NCVQ, 222 Euston Road, London NW1 2B2 (01 387 9898), who will send you a detailed job description.

DEPUTY
TREASURER

Salary range
(20) £17,172 - £21,688
According to application
(20) £20,588 - £25,776

Due to promotion an opportunity has arisen for an ambitious qualified accountant. The successful applicant will be expected to be enthusiastic and innovative with good management skills.

Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Health Authority currently has a budget of £25m, and has four Units of Management.

For informal discussion contact Mrs. J. M. Adams, Assistant General Manager (Finance) on Burnley 0882 25071 Ext. 2010.

For job description and application form, please contact the District Personnel Officer, Burnley General Hospital, Clarendon Avenue, BURNLEY BB10 2PQ, Lancashire. Telephone 0882 25071 Ext. 2010.

Closing Date 31st January, 1988.

THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF
ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL
(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)
WEST SMITHFIELD,
LONDON, EC1A 7BEAssistant
Finance Officer
(Research)

Administrative Grade 3 -
£17,738 - £20,738
(incl. London Allowance)

Applications are invited for this new post, which has been created to assist the Finance Officer in the further development of the Research activities of the College, from individuals who are professionally qualified (eg. C.S.). Applicants should have a particular interest in Commercial Law and possibly have practical experience of academic research work.

Further details may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, at the above address (telephone 01-404 7404), as witness written application in the form of a full CV with the names and addresses of two referees should be made by 5th February 1988.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

DIRECTOR
MACINTYRE WESTONING

Macintyre is a progressive charity doing dynamic work with mentally handicapped people of all ages who have additional disabilities.

Westoning is the original Macintyre home. It comprises eight residences and various day care facilities for the education, training, special needs, horticulture and therapy of the 83 residents. It has a 43 acre farm. Changes will occur at Westoning during 1988 when Macintyre's new community project opens in Milton Keynes.

In May the present director will move to establish Macintyre's services for handicapped people in northwest England. We seek an energetic replacement to direct the work of Westoning during an exciting period of change and development well into the 1990's.

The person appointed will play an important part in the senior management of Macintyre; we seek a vitally creative person who is a good communicator, administrator and decision maker.

The annual salary depends on age and experience but is not less than £20K. A car is provided and temporary accommodation may be available.

For further information and application details please contact Liz Horsman, General Manager, Macintyre, 2 Ridgeway Court, Grovebury Road, Leighton Buzzard, Beds, LU7 8SW (Tel: 0525 370102).

Closing date for applications is Friday 5th February, 1988.

CHIEF
PERSONNEL
OFFICER

To £32,000

HARROW is a London Borough preparing to face the challenges of impending legislation. We need an experienced and creative Personnel Manager to contribute effectively to the process of change. We have recently restructured the department and are currently making key appointments. You will therefore be in at the beginning of a professionally demanding and rewarding period for both the department and the Council as a whole. The post carries direct managerial responsibility for both centrally and departmentally based personnel teams and is the Council's Chief Adviser on all personnel and management services matters.

Applicants should therefore be professionally qualified, have substantial managerial experience preferably in local government and a record of achievement in influencing matters over which they have no direct authority.

A relocation package of up to £6,000 is available.

For an informal discussion please contact either:-
Mr A G Redmond (Chief Executive & Director of Finance) on Ext. 2183.

or Mrs D McGrath (Chief Personnel Officer) on Ext. 2024.

For an application form (returnable by 2nd February 1988) and further details please ring 01-863 5671 (Extension 2024) or write to the Chief Personnel Officer, PO Box 57, Civic Centre, Station Road, Harrow HA1 2XP.

Harrow

an equal opportunity employer

CASTLE POINT
DISTRICT COUNCILChief Recreation and
Amenities Officer

at a salary of £22,941 - £25,235 p.a.
on terms and conditions of JNC
for Chief Officers

OR

in the alternative
on a 3 year contract
at a salary of £25,235 - £27,758 p.a.
and otherwise in accordance with the
terms and conditions of the JNC
for Chief Officers

In either case a car will be provided

The Council have determined that the recreation and amenities function, which at present rests as a division of the Chief Technical Officer's Department, should be headed by its own "Chief Officer" as a separate department.

For this new post, applications are invited from qualified persons, who must be able to demonstrate considerable experience in the management and development of recreation and amenities facilities, in accordance with Council policy.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained on request by writing to the address below or by telephoning the Chief Personnel Officer on South Benfleet (0268) 792711 extension 115.

Completed application forms should be returned to the undersigned by 1st February, 1988.

A. R. NEIGHBOUR
Chief Executive and Clerk
of the Council

Castle Point District Council
Council Offices
Kila Road,
Thundersley,
Benfleet,
Essex
SS7 1TF.

THE SOCIETY OF
CHIROPODISTSINDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS OFFICER

The Society of Chiropodists which is a professional organisation and an independent, listed Trade Union, with a membership of over 5,000, approximately half of whom are employed in the National Health Service, wishes to appoint an Industrial Relations Officer, who will be responsible to the General Secretary for the conduct of the Society's affairs as a Trade Union at both national and local levels. This will include the preparation of evidence for the Pay Review Body as well as the representation of members who are involved in local Grievance or Disciplinary Procedures. Experience of NHS employment and Whitley Council Conditions of Service and knowledge of employment law would be an advantage.

Salary Scale £13,689 - £17,275 plus
London Weighting (currently £1,201
per annum).

For further details, including a Job Description and Application form, which should be submitted by 31.1.88, write to the Secretary, The Society of Chiropodists, 53 Welbeck Street, London, W1M 7HE.

WEST DORSET District Council

Applications are invited for the following post:

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Salary up to £34,000

West Dorset are looking for a successor to their present Chief Executive who is leaving to take up a similar post within another Local Authority.

They are seeking an energetic officer with a proven record in management to advise the Council on the major challenges now facing local government and feel they can offer an exceptional career opportunity.

The Council are currently engaged on a series of major initiatives, including Town Centre redevelopment in the County Town of Dorchester, a rationalisation of their Headquarter and Area Offices and a further extension to its leisure services.

Further information relating to the post and the District is available from the Chief Personnel Officer, Tel: Dorchester (0305) 251010 Ext 220. The Council offers generous removal and relocation expenses, including a mortgage subsidy scheme.

Applications (NO FORMS) together with the names and addresses of two referees to the Chief Personnel Officer, West Dorset District Council, 58/60 High West Street, Dorchester, DT1 1UZ to arrive not later than first post on 1 February 1988.

DEPARTMENT OF PROPERTY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
(Economic Development)

Salary £20,892 - £22,541 p.a. + lump sum car allowance

As a result of a major re-organisation of the Council's management structure and departmental responsibilities, a new department has been created to spearhead the City Council's policies and exciting new initiatives in the areas of Property, Economic Development and Tourism.

The new department has a vacancy for an Assistant Director (Economic Development) to join the Director as a member of the departmental management team.

Applicants for this challenging position must be appropriately qualified and experienced with a proven track record in management at a senior level. They must possess exceptional leadership qualities and be able to apply the full range of management skills towards the achievement of objectives.

The person appointed will be required to assist the Director in identifying the objectives of the department and in developing and implementing a corporate management approach to achieve those objectives. A high level of personal motivation and commitment to the development and effective planning of the work of the division will also be expected.

Application forms and further details available from the Personnel Manager, City Secretary's Department, The Guildhall, Nottingham NG1 4BT. Tel. (0602) 483501 ext. 4624. Closing date for applications: 10th February 1988. Please quote ref. PED/72 on all correspondence and enquiries.



City of Nottingham

An Equal Opportunity Employer

COUNCIL FOR LICENSED
CONVEYANCERSASSISTANT SECRETARY
£11,000 - £13,000

The Council for Licensed Conveyancers is a statutory body established under the Administration of Justice Act 1969 in competition with solicitors. The Council is required to make rules for training and to regulate the conduct and discipline of licence holders.

The Council is now looking for an Assistant Secretary who will act as Deputy to the Secretary. The main areas of responsibility will be:-

- 1) to take charge of the administration of the office;
- 2) to act as education officer and ensure that the Council's examinations run smoothly.

In addition the Assistant Secretary will be asked to take minutes at meetings of the Council and its subcommittees. The Assistant Secretary will also be asked to help the Secretary prepare the papers for meetings.

The Council is still at an early stage and the nature of the duties of the Assistant Secretary may well change as the office expands.

For further details and an application form please apply to Ann Martin, room 419, Telephone 210 4604. The closing date for receipt of completed applications is 22nd January.

GENERAL
MANAGER
(ADMINISTRATION)

to £19,000 p.a.

As the first step in a major re-organisation the Force wishes to appoint a senior manager who will operate at policy-making level as part of the Chief Constable's advisory group carrying specific responsibilities for all civilian employees. Initial responsibilities will include review and modernisation of force systems of controlling administration and finance. Suitable applicants are likely to have instituted change in their own organisation and be seeking a new challenge. They will necessarily be experienced managers from either the public or private sector.

For more details and an information pack contact the Force Personnel Office at Police Headquarters, Leek Wootton, (telephone 0525-411111, ext. 305).

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

VACANCY

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

ETHANOL COMPANY LIMITED

BLANTYRE, MALAWI

Applications are invited as soon as possible for the position of Chief Executive of the Ethanol Company. This company is one of the most advanced companies in the field of ethanol extraction from sugarcane. The Chief Executive will be responsible for continuing the planning, promotion and development of greater usage of ethanol in Malawi.

The person we are seeking will need to be first and foremost an experienced Chief Executive who is capable of planning and controlling the operational activities of the company and co-ordinating with suppliers of raw material and product distributors. He may have a chemical engineering or similar background and preference will be given to applicants who have experience of ethanol production and marketing in a developing country. He will be a mature individual capable of negotiating with government officials, oil companies, sugar producers etc at the highest level. Man management should be one of the strong points.

It is envisaged that the successful applicant will initially sign a contract of employment for three years in terms of which he will enjoy a remuneration package carrying a salary commensurate with the post and responsibilities, furnished housing, appropriate education subsidies, free air passages, company car, together with terminal gratuity in accordance with existing tax laws in Malawi. Malawi exchange control regulations currently permit the remittance of up to two-thirds of net earnings.

Malawi is renowned for the friendliness of its people and there are opportunities for sporting activities such as swimming, fishing and mountaineering.

Applicants should forward their C.V. which should give details of career to date, earnings and fringe benefits of their current post to:

The Chairman
Ethanol Company Limited
Private Bag 33
Blantyre
Malawi

The closing date of applications will be February 19, 1988.

SMMT

COMMITTEE

SECRETARY

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Limited has been representing the interests of the motor industry in Britain since 1902.

A vacancy now exists for a Committee Secretary. Reporting to the Assistant Secretary, your main responsibility will be to ensure that the Society's Trade Section Committees and Working Parties operate, and are serviced, effectively. This will involve the drafting of papers, minutes and action notes and liaising with members, Government departments and other external bodies where necessary.

You should be educated to at least 'A' level standard and have had a minimum of three years experience servicing committees. (Typing and shorthand are not essential).

Starting salary is circa £12,000 pa, with benefits to include contributory pension scheme, BUPA and subsidised canteen.

Please write with full career details to Mrs A Jones, SMMT, Forbes House, Halkin Street, London SW1X 7DS.

WALSALL COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER IN CHARGE

Salary from 1/2/88 £11,322-£14,625

RESEARCH OFFICER

Salary from 1/2/88 £9,873-£13,173

Full details application forms from:
Walsall Council for Community Relations, 4-5 Lower Hall Lane, Walsall, West Midlands WS1 1RH
Telephone 0922 28989

Completed forms to be returned to: Mr S H Rhalls, Chairman (welfare person), 23 Prince Avenue, Walsall WS1 2PH
Closing date January 23, 1988.

THE ROYAL ASSOCIATION FOR DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION

Applications are invited for a post as SENIOR POLICY OFFICER

(one of two)

The appointee will be responsible for work relating to Health and Social Services, social service provision in local authorities, social security and parliamentary work and will lead a group of people working in these areas.

Salary N.J.C. scale 5-SO1-£10,488 - £13,575.

Further information from The Office Manager, RADAR, 25 Mortimer St, London W1N 8AB.
RADAR is an equal opportunities employer.

SAUDI ARABIA

MARRIED STATUS

WHY NOT START THE NEW YEAR WITH A NEW POST IN A BRAND NEW HOSPITAL?

The Al-Fanateer Hospital, Jubail

The Al-Fanateer Hospital is an acute care hospital of 200 beds serving the local population of the modern commercial city of Jubail. This is one of two cities developed under the aegis of the Royal Commission.

Although an commercial city, particular care has been paid to developing an attractive environment with residential areas segregated from industry. The hospital is located within one of the residential areas overlooking the sea. This provides a superb setting for both patients and staff.

The hospital is newly completed and has a wide range of diagnostic and treatment facilities including CT scanning, angiography, burns units, closed circuit television in operating rooms and many other features usually only found in larger hospitals.

UHG are commissioning the hospital from handover of the building and this is your chance to help develop a first class hospital in this growing city.

Chief of Medicine

* be MRCP or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess a minimum of three years experience as a Chief of Medicine.
* possess subspecialty training in Cardiology.

Internist (Cardiologist)

* be MRCP or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess subspecialty training in Cardiology.
* possess minimum three years post qualification experience.

Internist (Gastroenterologist)

* be MRCP or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess subspecialty training in Gastroenterology.
* possess minimum three years post qualification experience.

Paediatrician

* be MRCP or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess minimum one years experience in neonatal patient care.
* possess minimum three years post qualification experience.

Otorhinolaryngologist

* be FRCS or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess minimum three years post qualification experience.

Obstetrician/Gynaecologist

* be MRCP or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess minimum three years post qualification experience.

We are particularly interested in appointing females to these posts.

Radiologist (Special Procedures)

* be FRCP or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess minimum three years post qualification experience.
* must be proficient in use of Ultrasound, special procedures and CAT Scanning.

Dermatologist

* be MRCP or hold Diploma in Dermatology.
* possess minimum three years post qualification experience.
* LOCUM CONTRACTS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY.

Orthodontist

* be BDS or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess 5 years post qualification experience.

Chief of Surgery

* be FRCS or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess subspecialty training in plastic surgery.
* possess 5 years experience in a similar capacity.

General Surgeon

* be FRCS or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess 3 years post qualification experience.

Orthopaedic Surgeon

* be FRCS or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess 5 years post qualification experience.

Senior Anaesthesiologist

* be FRFRC or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess 5 years post qualifications experience.

Chief of Paediatrics

* be MRCP or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess 5 years post qualification experience.

Chief of Pathology

* be MRCP or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess 5 years post qualification experience.

Chief of Dentistry

* be BDS or equivalent European, North American or Australian qualification.
* possess 5 years post qualification experience.

Benefits include

* free housing/rentals
* car loan scheme
* 12 to 36 month contracts

For further information telephone Slough 0753-73222 Extension 216 or write to:



Name _____
Address _____
Telephone Number _____
Qualifications _____
Speciality _____
Availability _____ Date of Birth _____
Send to International Hospitals Group, (H.O.)
Freepost 35, London W1E 5LY

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



HEAD OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Salary Scale £12,931-£16,778

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, committed person to this key post.

The successful candidate will be expected to develop further the Association's Continuing Education Programme and to ensure that our members' changing needs are met.

Applicants should ideally:

- * be Chartered Members of the Library Association
- * have substantial experience of an commitment to continuing education
- * have good management skills.

The starting salary is likely to be in the range £12,931-£14,661, including London Weighting. An attractive pension scheme is available.

Further details and application forms are available from the Administrative Officer, The Library Association, 7 Ridgeway Street, London WC1E 7AE, Tel: 01-636 7543 ext. 252.

Prospective candidates may contact Ross Shinnott at the above address or on 01-636 7543 ext 266 for an informal discussion.

Closing date: 5th February 1988

NORLAND NURSERY TRAINING COLLEGE

has a vacancy for a

DEPUTY MATRON (M/F)

Salary: £7,500-£9,000pa

Main duties include caring for children aged 0-7 years staying in our Residential Nurseries for short periods, and seeking practical solutions to current nursery nurses. Experience and training in childcare essential.

Job description and further information available from: The Principal's Secretary, on Hangerford 82252.

Completed applications should be returned to: The College Principal, Norland Nursery Training College, Dorland Park, Hangerford, by February 12, 1988.

The Schools of King Edward the Sixth

In Birmingham

SECRETARY

to the Governors

Applications are invited for the important post of Secretary to the Governors of this well-known Foundation, which comprises two independent schools and five grammar schools in the City of Birmingham. The present Secretary will retire on the 31st August 1988, and if possible his successor should be available from the 1st May 1988.

Wide experience of finance and administration desirable in the education field and general management skills are pre-requisites. The successful candidate must also demonstrate the ability to develop and maintain constructive working relationships with colleagues and staff at all levels.

Commencing salary will be in the region of £22,500+ and normal retirement age is 60.

Further details and application form may be obtained from Mr M B Lloyd, Robson Rhodes, Chartered Accountants, Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham B5 4UU.

ASSISTANT CLERK

£21,489 - £23,649
(6 1/2% of Chief Officers Grade)

This is a third tier post in the County Clerk's Department for a major authority located in one of the most attractive areas of the country, including the Peak District National Park.

This is an excellent opportunity for a Solicitor or Barrister with drive and enthusiasm who has proven experience of dealing with a broad range of legal and administrative issues at a high level.

You will head the team of legal and administrative staff responsible for Environmental Services which is concerned with planning, highways and transport issues. Duties include representing the County Council at public enquiries, appeals and prosecutions, attending major committees, and providing legal advice to Members and officers.

Previous local government experience would be an advantage though not essential and we are looking for able candidates with a background in the public or private sector.

An attractive relocation package is available and an essential car user allowance of £600 per annum is attached to this post.

Application forms and further details are available from: Mr E W Dutton, County Clerk, Derbyshire County Council, County Office, Blatock, Derbyshire, DE4 3AE.

Closing date - 5 February 1988

The Council's policy is that all people receive equal treatment regardless of their sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, creed, colour, ethnic or national origin, or disability.

DERBYSHIRE County Council Supports Nuclear Free Zones

ACACIA HOUSE

REST AND NURSING HOME

MATRON and DEPUTY MATRON

SRN/RGN for existing registered rest home for 15, in a mid-Kent town which is currently being extended with additional 25 bedroom proposed nursing home unit. Applicants must have experience with the elderly and current registration and Pin No.

Salary negotiable.

Write fullest possible details, qualifications, experience age etc, to Mrs Oldridge, Acacia House, Rest Home, Ashford Road, St. Michaels, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6QA.

COUNTY LAND AGENT

SALARY
£17151 - £18384

Applications are invited for the post of County Land Agent, which will become vacant on 3 July 1988, on the retirement of the present holder, Mr Ian Provis.

Applications forms returnable by 8 February 1988 and further information obtainable from the undersigned.

Chief Executive
County Hall
Dorchester
DT1 1XJ.

LEICESTER POLYTECHNIC

COMPUTING SERVICES

COMPUTING SUPPORT OFFICER (BUSINESS)

Scale 3/6 (£6,951 to £10,647)

The duties of this post involve a support and development role. Development work is for software on MSDOS based computer facilities. The support role is to academic staff in the Schools of the Business Faculty. We are seeking someone who can demonstrate a sound experience of a range of business uses and software.

Programming duties include software development and maintenance and the installation of 'bought-in' packages.

Other duties include liaison between the local user community and central computer services.

Placement on the scale will be according to qualifications and experience.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Leicester Polytechnic. Closing date 4th February 1988.

R.G.N.'s

OUR GROWTH CAN BE YOUR CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Gable House is one of the leading Nursing Home Groups in the U.K., currently operating 16 homes nationally with a commitment to rapid growth over the next 2 years.

Consequently we are looking for highly trained, ambitious R.G.N.'s with future potential to become Deputy Matrons/Managers.

Gable House have recently integrated an in-company Management Development Programme in recognition of the need to encourage the growth and promotion of their key people.

Your responsibilities will naturally include senior nursing duties in one of our homes. Additionally you will be offered the opportunity to participate in the Management Training Programme, where you will be developed in preparation for a more senior position within Gable House.

The successful applicants will be quick thinking, effective communicators and energetic achievers - a willingness to relocate will enhance opportunities for promotion.

An excellent remuneration package is offered to the right applicants.

If you are interested in this opportunity please write with full career, current salary and personal details to:

Debbie Smith
Personnel & Training Manager
Gable Retirement Homes Ltd
Vistron House
928 Finchley Road
Finchley
LONDON N12 9RW

Gable House

MAKING A RETIREMENT HOME YOUR HOME

1 Stanford Avenue Brighton East Sussex BN1 6AD

SRNs, RGNs and SENs

Trained staff required for a large busy Nursing Home.

Interesting post as a wide range of patients include post-op, medical convalescent, rehabilitation and young disabled. There will also be opportunities to work in the day-care centre with specialised staff.

This well-equipped establishment has progressive ideas both in patient care and staff training.

Apply with CV to:
Miss T Baker, Administrator,
The Hollies Nursing Home,
1 Stanford Avenue, Brighton or phone for further information (0273) 566111.

KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL

Clerk and Chief Executive's Department

Deputy Clerk and Solicitor to the Council

£20,082 to £22,110

Are you a sound local government lawyer with experience of committee, elections and general administration?

Are you looking to develop your management skills and experience and your involvement in higher level corporate matters?

We are looking for someone with those qualities to fill this newly created post which is responsible directly to the Clerk and Chief Executive for the management and operation of the legal, committee, electoral and general administration services of the Council.

You will need to display, in addition to excellent legal skills, an awareness and experience of management techniques and problems plus an appreciation of 'political' issues. An interest in the positive management and marketing of in-house services against a background of competition is also desirable.

Kenet District Council is administered from modern, centralized offices in the historic town of Devizes. It covers approximately 379 square miles of rural Wiltshire, a large proportion of which is in areas of outstanding natural beauty, including Marlborough, the Vale of Pewsey and Avebury.

A lump sum car allowance and telephone allowance applies to this post.

Application form, returnable by 2 February 1988, together with further details are available from Mrs Mary Dicoxon on Devizes 4811, Ext 222 or by writing to the Chief Personnel Officer, Browford, Bath Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2AT.

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Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2AT.

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

QUALIFYING IN 1988?

We welcome applications and enquiries from trainee solicitors due to qualify in 1988 for all areas of private practice within Central London. We have vacancies available in conveyancing, company and commercial, civil and commercial litigation, tax and trusts with firms of all sizes. Candidates who have gained relevant experience during Articles can expect good prospects and salaries.

PROPERTY LAWYERS

One of the leading City firms in commercial property work is looking for additional newly qualified and experienced solicitors. A wide range of work includes institutional investment and development for clients in finance, commerce and industry. The salary package and opportunities for career advancement are excellent.

CONSTRUCTION LAW

Opportunities are available for specialists in all aspects of construction law including substantial High Court litigation and the drafting and negotiating of contracts related to major engineering and building projects. Attractive and rewarding career prospects are available with a salary and benefits package to match.

For further details please contact
Lucy Hartley on (01) 583 0073.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

Central London

We wish to hear from ambitious young lawyers seeking first class work experience within expanding company commercial departments. With the opportunity to gain specialist corporate finance experience or to work on a range of complex commercial transactions, applicants with relevant background can enjoy excellent prospects and highly competitive remuneration.

CORPORATE FINANCE

from £22,000 + Bens

We are currently recruiting on behalf of several Stockbrokers, Merchant and Investment banks, who seek additional staff at all levels as a result of the continuing expansion of their corporate finance departments. Candidates for the more senior positions should be corporate financiers with experience in a wide range of transactions. At executive level, we welcome applications from recently qualified lawyers with a top City firm training and good academic records.

For further details please contact
Judith Farmer or John Cullen on (01) 583 0073.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

LEGAL ADVISOR

£20,000 + Bens

Our client is a major energy Group with significant interests overseas. This generates a varied and challenging commercial workload and as a result an ambitious commercially aware lawyer with up to five years' experience is sought. Possessing sound drafting skills, the successful applicant will take responsibility for a range of corporate matters, and hard work and commitment will be rewarded with an excellent remuneration package.

COMMERCIAL LAWYER

To £20,000 + Bens

Our client, a well-known firm group with interests both in the UK and overseas, is seeking a young lawyer with up to 3 years' experience to join a thriving legal department. The successful candidate will be required to advise on a variety of commercial issues, including product liability and trade descriptions. Excellent opportunity to break into the commercial market.

For details of these and other vacancies please contact Lisa Wilson, Tina Knight or Robert Drury on (01) 583 0073.

LEGAL ADVISER

Artiste Management

£24,000 + car

Primarily involved in the management of recording artistes, our client also manages a number of other entertainments related companies, including record and music publishing interests, both in the UK and overseas.

Liaising with outside firms of lawyers and accountants, the Legal Adviser will report to and work closely with the General Manager. Negotiating, drafting and advising upon all forms of commercial contracts including songwriting, recording, touring, sponsorship and advertising agreements, he or she will advise the company's clients on all aspects of their professional lives. The position provides a broad range of tasks and considerable exposure, both within and outside the company.

In their mid to late 20s, applicants should be qualified solicitors from the legal profession or commerce. Experience of the entertainments industry would be advantageous but is not essential.

Please write, enclosing a career/salary history and day time telephone number, to David Hogg FCA quoting reference H/670/TT.

LLOYD MANAGEMENT Selection Consultants 125 High Holborn London WC1V 6QA

LLOYD MANAGEMENT

LONDON • BRIGHTON • READING

BADENOCH & CLARK

BIRMINGHAM • MILTON KEYNES

18-19 NEWBRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON EC4A
TEL: 01-583 0073 OR 01-474 2160 (EVENINGS & WEEKENDS)

THE LEGAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

15-16 NEWBRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON EC4A
TEL: 01-583 0073 OR 01-474 2160 (EVENINGS & WEEKENDS)

Deputy City Solicitor
and Secretary

from £30,528 inc.

We are looking for a top-flight lawyer and manager with the flexibility and commitment to work in an authority at the leading edge of policy development and innovation.

This is a key managerial post. If you have extensive local government experience and would relish the challenge of working closely with senior members and officers in an exciting and busy environment, we would like to hear from you.

We offer a generous salary (performance related), private medical cover and other benefits.

A job description is available — please either telephone 01-834 5958 or call at the One Stop Services floor at City Hall. Please send your c.v. to the Assistant Personnel Manager, Westminster City Council, PO Box 240, Victoria Street, SW1E 6QP. Please quote reference S21.

Closing date: 5 February 1988.



City of Westminster

An equal opportunity employer

Director of corporate
services

New York based, US \$65,000+ p.a.



This is an exciting opportunity for an ambitious, highly motivated Chartered Secretary to play an important part in the growth of a well-known international group of companies involved in the manufacture and marketing of branded soft goods. The group has operations in the USA, Europe and the Far East with licensing and distribution arrangements worldwide.

Reporting to a Senior Board member, you will have total responsibility for the group's corporate secretarial function and you can expect to be actively involved in a wide range of commercial matters. Key tasks include monitoring compliance with international contractual obligations in the areas of licensing, distribution and joint venture agreements, trademark administration and providing support services to other departments within the group.

We are looking for a qualified Chartered Secretary with a minimum of five years' experience in an international trade environment. Likely to have an accounting or legal background, you will be familiar with international trade, corporate and tax legislation.

Prospects in this dynamic and fast growing company are excellent for the right candidate. Relocation expenses will be included in the package. Please send résumés, including current salary package, to Ros Alchin Ref. 832 RA. These will be acknowledged and forwarded to our client unless a covering letter gives contrary instructions.

Coopers
& Lybrand
Executive
SelectionCoopers & Lybrand
Executive Selection
Limited
Shelley House
3 Noble Street
London EC2V 7DQ

RICHARDS BUTLER

SHIPPING LAWYERS

Richards Butler is a major international law firm with a large commercial and shipping practice. Based in the City of London, the firm has a total staff of about 400 of whom 57 are partners, and overseas offices in Hong Kong, Abu Dhabi and Tokyo.

The firm is currently seeking three Assistant Solicitors to join its rapidly expanding Shipping Department. Applicants for these posts should be 2-3 years' qualified, preferably with commercial shipping litigation experience in Charterparty and Bill of Lading disputes. There will also be considerable scope for the successful applicants to become involved in the firm's growing reinsurance and professional indemnity practices.

Terms and conditions of employment are extremely competitive and there will be opportunities for foreign travel and for secondment to the overseas offices.

Applicants are invited to write (enclosing a c.v.) to Nicholas Fisher at the St. Mary Axe office, or you may ring him on 01-621 1144.

RICHARDS BUTLER

5 Clifton Street, London EC2A 4DQ
and
61 St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 8AA

Herrington & Carmichael

Solicitors and Conveyancers for Time

Senior Conveyancing
Solicitor

A long established but modern thinking firm of solicitors require an experienced conveyancer to work with the Senior Partner.

Our requirements are:

- At least 3 years p.g.e.
- Fully conversant with all aspects of conveyancing
- Aged 25 to 35
- Ability to work under pressure
- To have a sense of humour

then you are likely to be perfect for the job

The rewards:

- Salary from £23k p.a.
- Motor car, all costs paid
- Early Partnership prospects

Ring now for an appointment at a time to suit you. You won't be disappointed.

Herrington & Carmichael
42 Middle Gorton Road, Camberley
Tel: (0276) 686223

PROBATE
SPECIALIST

to £25,000

Our client an established firm of London solicitors seeks a Legal Executive or Solicitor with extensive experience in Probate. The successful candidate will take on the demanding responsibility for the firm's existing business and the considerable anticipated development of new business on this side of the practice. Candidates probably over the age of 35 must demonstrate a successful record in the specific area of probate, trusts, wills and tax. Interpersonal skills, stamina and numeracy, together with a creative mind are essential.

Please send c.v.'s quoting ref. number DR. 527 to the Managing Director, Guy Rodmayne & Partners, 18 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9FD.

GRP is the General Recruitment Division of EAL.

Litigation Assistant

HAMLIN SLOWE · WEST END

We are looking to recruit either a recently qualified solicitor or an experienced legal executive to join our busy, talented general Litigation team. You will be expected to handle your own caseload covering liquidated claims, personal injury and matrimonial matters for both private and commercial clients.

We will expect you to be able to demonstrate good communication skills, the ability to work under pressure with conflicting priorities and a sense of humour.

As a well-established large West End practice we are able to offer you good career prospects, a friendly working atmosphere and an opportunity for you to prove yourself.

Remuneration will depend on age and experience, but is unlikely to be a bar to the right candidate, as the firm attaches great importance to this position. In addition to a generous salary we offer a performance related bonus, pension scheme, free medical cover plus the usual benefits of working for an innovative firm.

If you are interested in applying for this position or to find out more please either write to, or telephone Miss Karen Thompson on 01-629 1209 quoting ref: LA/2.



P.O. Box 45Q, Roxburghe House, 273-287 Regent Street, London W1A 4SQ

Administrative Officer
Group Secretariat

c.£13,000

At the headquarters of this international pharmaceutical group we require a graduate, preferably in law or a business related discipline, to assist in the provision of services and advice within the sphere of company secretarial practice for group companies. You will be involved in statutory company secretarial and administrative duties, the maintenance of comprehensive records in relation to subsidiary companies, indexing and retrieval of documents and distribution of publications.

Earnings, including London Allowance and guaranteed bonus, will be in the region of £13,000 p.a. Excellent benefits include a non-contributory pension scheme, season ticket loan scheme and Lunch Allowance.

For an application form please contact Miss Jan Turner at the address below.



Glaxo Holdings p.l.c.

Clarges House, 6-12 Clarges Street, London W1Y 8DH. Tel: 01-493 4060 Ext. 300.

ASA LAW
PERMANENT
APPOINTMENTS
FOR SOLICITORS

We are a friendly agency offering a highly personalised service to candidates and clients in London and the Provinces. If you are contemplating a career move call us for a confidential discussion. We also welcome enquiries from newly qualified solicitors and legal executives.

Call Julia Wylham-Morris on 01-404 4828 or write with full CV to:
ASA LAW Permanent appointments
31/37 Gussier Street off Chancery Lane
London EC4A 3LT.

LEGAL

APPOINTMENTS
ALSO APPEAR ON
PAGES 20 & 21

ISLE OF MAN

We have two challenging new positions for young part/qualified lawyers in a growing financial centre and low tax area.

Our extensive investment property portfolio and land bank places us amongst the top property developers in the British Isles. In the normal course of our business some litigation work arises. The successful applicants will therefore need to be able to demonstrate a broad range of legal skills and show in particular a leaning towards either conveyancing or litigation. An attractive salary package is offered including comfortable accommodation.

In the first instance please reply in the strictest confidence enclosing full c.v. with details of remuneration package sought to P.O. Box K35
The Directors
Montrose Holdings Limited
Celtic House, Victoria Street
Douglas, Isle of Man

BARRISTERS
CLERK

Senior Clerk required for well established common law Chambers in Manchester. Please write with full C.V. in confidence to:

Peter Main
601 Royal Exchange
Manchester 2

Scots Law Report January 19 1988

Ban on ex-agent's material an undue interference with public discussion

Lord Advocate v Scotsman Publications and Another
Before Lord Coulsfield
[Judgment January 12]

A prohibition on the publication of any material or information obtained by or given to Anthony Cavendish as a result of his employment in the British security or intelligence services constituted an undue interference with discussion of matters of public interest and should be recalled.

Lord Coulsfield so held in the Outer House of the Court of Session in recalling an interim interdict he had issued on January 6 on the petition of the Lord Advocate against the respondents, the proprietors and editor of *The Scotsman* newspaper.

A motion by Scottish Television Ltd ("STV") on whose behalf a caveat had been lodged, and George Outram and Co Ltd, publishers of *The Glasgow Herald* newspaper, for recall of the interim interdict so far as it affected them was refused.

The interim interdict was in the following terms: "To interdict the respondents or either of them or their agents, servants or anyone acting on their behalf or any person having notice of said interdict from disclosing or publishing or causing or permitting to be disclosed or published to any person all or any material or information obtained by Anthony Cavendish in the course of his employment with the British Security or Intelligence Services or obtained by other officers of those Services in the course of their employment with them and given by such officers to Anthony Cavendish..."

Mr Alistair Cameron, QC and Mr Neil Davidson, for the petitioner; Mr William Nunn QC and Mr James Peoples for the respondents; Lord Morton of Shuna, QC, for STV; Mr Brian Douglas for George Outram & Co.

LORD COULSFIELD said that the petitioner had argued that Mr Cavendish, and the other officers who supplied information to him, owed a lifelong duty of confidentiality to the Crown even if the material in question had been otherwise published; that disclosure of the material by them amounted to a breach of that duty; that disclosure by them of such material would be prejudicial to the interests of the Crown and the public and might result in a loss of confidence by foreign governments in the British Government; that it was necessary in the public interest to maintain the principle that a public servant was under such an obligation of lifelong confidence preventing him from disclosing information obtained by him in the course of his

employment and that the public interest would suffer if such a breach were permitted.

It was also stated by the petitioner that it was neither proper nor practicable to distinguish among the information so received and that consequently all such information, however trivial, must be kept from publication.

Equally, since the advantage of confidentiality would be irretrievably lost by any publication, any further publication of the material referred to in the interdict should be restrained at least *ad interim*.

The petitioner accepted that the material in Mr Cavendish's book would not endanger national security. The petition did not specify what the confidential material in Mr Cavendish's book was or how such material might harm the public interest.

In relation to the first of the petitioner's arguments it was not contended that Mr Cavendish had signed any agreement or undertaken to keep the information confidential.

The basis on which the interdict was sought was the setting up, from the ordinary incidents of master and servant, of an implied term prohibiting an employee of the Security Services from publishing any material however trivial, innocuous or notorious that material might be. No exception existed to such a term on the ground of competing public interest.

Due to the circumstances in which the interdict was sought there had been little discussion of authority. The only authority cited, but not explored, *Attorney General v The Observer and Others* (The Times December 27, 1987) supported his Lordship's view of the difficulty of deriving the rule of confidentiality postulated by the petitioner from any previous authority and the necessity for a full citation of authority.

There was considerable doubt as to whether a principle that had developed to protect the commercial interests of employers in business matters could be applied in any straightforward way in order to restrict the dissemination of information about the past activities of branches of government service when no question of national security was involved.

The respondents had argued that the application had no justification in law; that any material got by Mr Cavendish during his service related to a period prior to 1953 and, consequently, it was hard to conceive how it could harm anyone; that the material of interest to the respondents related to events between 1964 and 1979; and that such material had already been the subject of

widely publicised disclosure; that some such material disclosed had been based on information provided by officers of the security services and had been published without objection by the Crown; that the events of 1964 to 1979 were matters of public concern, and that strong public interest existed in the discussion of them and ascertainment of the truth about them; and that prohibition on the publication of such material would be a serious infringement of the freedom of the press to investigate and report on matters of public importance.

The respondents also argued that the petition had failed to provide the court with substantial information showing what matters in Mr Cavendish's book might harm the public interest or in what way.

His Lordship stated that on the basis of the inevitably limited argument that he had heard he was unable to conclude that the application had no possible basis in law. Consequently, the matter became one of the balance of convenience.

The considerations to be balanced were the importance of free discussion of information relating to matters of public importance, already public knowledge, on the one hand, and the view of the public interest put forward by the petitioner on the other.

He concluded that in view of the interim stage of the proceedings, and the possibility of irretrievable harm, he could not disregard the position put forward by the Lord Advocate. Accordingly, he granted interim interdict.

However, the terms of the interdict were modified to reflect the fact that the rule of confidentiality contended for would only apply in the absence of an express agreement between the employer and the employee, to anything learned in the course of his employment.

In the motion for recall of the interdict the question which became prominent was the effect of the order on persons other than the respondents. Counsel for STV and Outram argued that interim interdict should not have been pronounced against their clients without prior notice to them in view of the caveat lodged; that it was incompetent to pronounce an interdict in terms which would affect persons other than those called as respondents; that no interdict could affect them unless it was formally served on them; and that if the interdict was competent it amounted to an undue restraint on matters of public interest.

Considering the second argument, his Lordship referred to the case of *Lord Advocate v*

Campbell in which he had granted a similar interdict. He observed that there were very substantial grounds for doubting the competency of such an interdict to spell out the persons affected and the activities prohibited, and with the allowance of an opportunity to resist the granting of the order.

It was not clear what would constitute notice if this interdict and, therefore, what circumstances would cause a person to fall under the prohibition. A person must know that the information in question had been obtained in breach of confidence, and what circumstances would constitute such knowledge.

The petitioner referred to *Attorney General v Newspaper Publishing plc* (1987) 3 WLR 942. His Lordship considered that in granting an injunction in the form presently in issue ("To interdict... any person having notice of said interdict..."), the Court of Appeal had proceeded on a view of what was necessary for the due and proper administration of justice rather than any rule special to the English system of law.

His Lordship could not exclude the possibility, notwithstanding the difference in English and Scottish law on the subject, that the Scottish court could hold, after full citation of authority, that such an order would be competent in Scotland.

The difficulties caused where there was a caveat were not insuperable. Any defect in the vitality or force of the interdict must be cured once the parties had been heard upon it.

Equally, the question of formal service did not affect the question as to whether the interdict should be recalled in the present circumstances. Consequently, the question of recall of the interdict was one of the balance of convenience. In view of the position adopted by the petitioner, the motion for recall should be refused.

Finally, while considering that the course adopted in granting this interim interdict was correct at that time, on further reflection his Lordship found it increasingly difficult to see the necessity or value of the interim interdict in the present case.

Consequently he now regarded the question as to the continuance in force of the order to be open. He favoured the argument that it constituted an undue interference with discussion of matters of public interest and should be recalled.

Solicitors: Mr R. Brodie; Dundas & Wilson, CS; John G. Gray, CS, SSC; Haig-Scott & Co. WS.

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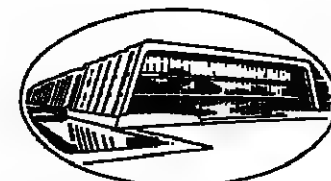
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FOOTBALL

Harford returns for Luton with an extra commitment

Mick Harford, the Luton Town forward, who turned down the chance of a £1 million transfer to West Ham United earlier this season, will sign a three-year contract with the club before tonight's Littlewoods Cup quarter-final at home to Bradford City.

The deal will make Harford, who is 29 next month, the highest paid player in the club's history. Although Harford, an England B forward who has been linked with several top clubs, is committing himself to Luton and is moving into a new house in the area, he has been assured that he should have a £1 million offer, he will be allowed to leave if he wants.

Allinson, who would have stood down in any case because he is cup-tied, makes way for Harford's return from suspension tonight.

Luton have promised a friendly welcome to Bradford City supporters. The hosts have away supporters from first division matches but with more than 2,000 tickets already sold in Bradford, the

Yorkshire club will be the first to have an appreciable following at Kenilworth Road for 18 months.

Minor ground alterations have been made to accommodate them on a standing terrace and there will be another 1,000 in seats in the main stand.

Oliver, the Bradford central defender, is his team's only doubt. An ever-present this season, Oliver went off injured at half-time in Saturday's League game at Swindon, which was eventually abandoned in the second half because of fog.

He will have a last-minute fitness test on his ankle complaint, and if he is ruled out, the second division side are likely to dispense with their normal sweeper system and just have Evans and Sinnott as the main two centre backs.

Like Luton, Bradford will be aiming for their first-ever semi-final in this competition.

Six Sheffield Wednesday players are battling to overcome injuries for the visit of Arsenal in tomorrow's quarter-final at Hillsborough, al-

though all of them Strland, Marwood, Mepson, Chapman, Owen and Madden are expected to be fit.

Sterland was in hospital at the weekend after suffering a shoulder injury in Wednesday's 3-0 win against Chelsea but has suffered only severe bruising.

Ratcliffe, the Everton captain, will miss the home tie against Manchester City tomorrow after failing to recover from a groin injury. Ratcliffe spent three days in a nursing home after sustaining the injury in an FA Cup tie against Sheffield Wednesday and has missed the last two games.

Clarke is expected to see Colin Harvey, the Everton manager, today to discuss his long term future with the Football League champions. Clarke is known to be considering a transfer request after failing to establish himself as a first team regular.

Mark Lawrenson, Liverpool's Republic of Ireland international defender, will undergo a precautionary scan on his damaged Achilles tendon on Thursday.

Bassett out to end city slicker image

Dave Bassett yesterday announced his desire to move away from the south of England after parting company with Watford last week and applying for the managerial post at Sheffield United, the struggling second division club.

"Whatever job I now take I think it will be outside London. Stories which suggest that I am reluctant to go North are nonsense. I think it is possible time to leave London where I may have suffered from having too much of a high profile," he said.

Although United have received more than 60 applications for a job likely to be allocated next week, Bassett is believed to have been placed on a short list of three. His two main rivals are thought to be Ken Brown, the former Norwich City manager, and Keith Burkinshaw, the former Tottenham Hotspur manager who is now in charge at Sporting Lisbon in Portugal.

Bassett watched United at Bournemouth at the weekend, and said: "I was visiting friends on the South Coast and it was just too good an opportunity to miss. It is now up to the Sheffield directors to decide. United are a big club and it is a fine job if you can get it right."

Police dogs trained to sniff out explosives were used to search a building in Norwich

before the start of the first division club's extraordinary general meeting last night when rebel shareholders planned to call for a vote of "no confidence" in Robert Chase, the chairman, and his board.

Carlton Fairweather, the Wimbledon forward and scorer of five goals, will be out for the rest of the season after fracturing his leg against Watford.

Howard King, the Welsh referee who was given a 14-month ban for failing to reply to correspondence about an assessment scheme, has withdrawn his court case against the Welsh FA. The Merthyr Tydfil official can still officiate in the English League, but not in Europe.

Ted Croker, the FA secretary, yesterday revealed records of the Charity Shield match between Everton, the League champions, and Coventry City, the FA Cup holders, at Wembley in August. St. John's Ambulance Brigade have received £30,000 in their centenary year from the fund.

FA Vase draw
FIFTH ROUND: Grimsby v Bridgwater on Tuesday at Burton City; Tamworth v Alfreton Town on Wednesday at Alfreton; Alfreton Town v Grimsby on Thursday at Grimsby; Alfreton Town v Grimsby on Friday at Grimsby; Alfreton Town v Grimsby on Saturday at Grimsby.

Police dogs trained to sniff out explosives were used to search a building in Norwich

Charlton may join the elite

By Ian Ross

Bobby Charlton, the 106 times capped former international, has indicated that he will put himself up for election to the Football League management committee during the summer.

Charlton, now a director at Manchester United, the club he served as a player for over 20 years, has recently been critical of the committee over the way they handled Robert Maxwell's attempted takeover at Watford.

"I have been critical of the committee because I think that I should be ready to put myself up for election," he said.

Charlton, the highly respected member of the England World Cup winning side of 1966, is one of the few players who have immediately advocated the appointment of a Football League "supremo."

"I am in favour of more full-time, paid people within the game, but I think it is a top man like a League Commissioner," Charlton said.

"I am certainly not describing the present League management committee as amateurs. They are very able people, but they do have business to run and the Football League is a business. I think it is a top man like a League Commissioner," Charlton said.

MOTOR RALLYING

Salonen threat to Lancias

Monte Carlo (Reuters) - The French drivers, Bruno Saby and Yves Loubet, both in Lancia Delta, trailed for the lead in the 56th Monte Carlo rally yesterday in the absence of the world's leading names.

The Finns, Hannu and Kaukianen, the world champions, are both taking part in the Paris to Dakar event while Sunday's first day of timed stages brought the abandonment of last year's winner, Blomqvist, of Volvo.

Loubet, trailing by almost one minute overnight, clawed back to

within 16 seconds of Saby by the end of the six timed stages on the first day of the Coors Rally. Saby retained the overall lead, despite finishing fourth in the second stage behind Loubet, another Lancia driver, Yvan, and Salonen, who was making a recovery to 29th overall.

The Finn, the sole survivor of Mando's team of top drivers, started the day in 49th position after receiving a 10-minute penalty on Sunday.

In the first timed stage yesterday he finished fifth, but the bad luck that has dogged Mando

struck again in the second stage when he was slowed by transmission problems.

Mando officials were probing an error in which 1,800 litres of petrol ordered from West Germany had been found to contain 18 litres of diesel fuel, causing Mando's abandonment and slowing both Salonen and Saby.

LEADING POSITIONS: 1, B Saby (Lancia Delta); 2, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 3, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 4, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 5, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 6, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 7, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 8, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 9, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 10, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 11, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 12, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 13, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 14, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 15, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 16, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 17, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 18, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 19, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 20, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 21, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 22, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 23, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 24, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 25, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 26, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 27, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 28, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 29, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 30, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 31, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 32, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 33, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 34, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 35, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 36, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 37, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 38, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 39, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 40, Yvan (Lancia Delta); 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Clubs persuaded that caution is the best policy

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, yesterday insisted that the football authorities who are to meet UEFA's executive committee in Monte Carlo tomorrow, must accept that the European ban on English clubs should not be lifted until after this summer's European Championship finals.

Bert Millichip and Ted Croker, the chairman and secretary of the Football Association, and Philip Carter, the president of the Football League, who were all hoping for an earlier lifting of the ban, had requested an urgent meeting to clarify Government policy after remarks Moynihan had made over the weekend.

But Moynihan told them: "I hope to see English clubs back in Europe, but such a return would have to be conditional on the behaviour of English supporters during the European Championship finals."

After an hour's discussion at the Department of the Environment, Moynihan eventually persuaded them to change their position before the talks with UEFA, the governing body of European football.

He added that "The behaviour in England throughout the domestic season" should also be taken into consideration. Earlier, in a radio interview, Moynihan had said: "It must be right to judge the effect of the security measures in West Germany before we make a decision about going back into Europe."

"To pre-empt an obvious acid test, such as the European Championship finals, would clearly be unwise and, in my opinion, a mistake." That he has been able to change the minds of England's representatives and to soften their demands will be a source of substantial relief to UEFA's committee.

The 12 men, resembling more a parole board than a jury, would have had instantly to decide whether the sentence, imposed after the tragic events at the Heysel stadium, 30 months ago, had endured for long enough to serve its purpose. Yet they had no means by which to make a realistic judgement.

Carter call to stay clear of Germany

By Ian Ross

Philip Carter, the president of the Football League, yesterday appealed to England supporters to stay away from the European Championship finals in West Germany in June.

Carter presents English football's case for a return to the major European competitions next season at a meeting of UEFA in Monaco tomorrow and believes that any more trouble abroad involving English supporters would lead to an indefinite ban.

"If people do feel that it is necessary to go to the finals the onus is on them to behave. The main point is to stay away and let the action take place without the possibility of any problem," he said.

Carter, accompanied by Bert Millichip, the Football Association chairman, is confident that the European game's governing body will lift the ban imposed following the 1985 Heysel Stadium tragedy, but he is stealing himself for provisos.

Kelly hints at compromise

By Clive White

The future of Derby County and Oxford United remains in jeopardy despite a suggestion by Graham Kelly, the Football League secretary, yesterday that any decision taken on dual shareholding at the League chairman's extraordinary general meeting today would not be retrospective.

Robert Maxwell, the publishing magnate who has a controlling interest in both clubs, has already gone on record to say that he would sever his connections with football if he is not allowed to purchase Elton John's 92 per cent holding in Watford, irrespective of whether he was allowed to keep Derby and Oxford.

Of the three clubs, Watford is the one he would most like to control and he might be prepared to sell the other two in order to take charge of Watford.

BPCC, whose £2m offer for Watford sparked the dispute, are the town's largest employers. Maxwell also still has a 30 per cent holding in Reading,

which he has promised the League he would sell.

"There is a feeling within the League to suggest that it would be improper to disturb the Oxford-Derby situation overnight," Kelly said. "It would be unfair suddenly to alter a situation which had existed for some time without question being raised. Clubs backed the management committee in taking a firm line over the Watford situation, but that's not necessarily the same as carrying a regulation change."

Kelly added: "They could decide to strengthen the regulations and then leave a time for negotiations with Mr Maxwell over 12 months to two years. The problem with that is that it is open-ended, but I'm sure that, with goodwill, an agreement can be struck."

The chairman, motivated by fear and self-interest, may decide on one of the three softer options open to them which will allow a shareholder in one club to hold five, 10 or

The signs are that English football is indeed beginning to win the domestic battle against the hooligans, though shamefully belatedly. To support their argument, Millichip and Carter can point to the success of the measures that have been taken to limit the threat of aggressive, drunken louts.

The latest set of statistics to reinforce their claim were produced, with appropriate timing, by the Football Trust. They revealed that there are now 85 grounds in the United Kingdom which are covered by close-circuit television cameras at a cost of £2 million. Another 18 soon will be.

Some £300,000 is to be spent on modernising the equipment at the bigger stadiums. Other grants have been, or are about to be, given to strengthening policing at matches (£1.3 million) improving transport for supporters (£500,000) and to research into hooliganism (£350,000).

But such figures, though they are to be welcomed, should be considered largely irrelevant inside the court room in Monaco. That disturbances inside League grounds have mercifully been reduced from the commonplace to the rare is merely an indication that the problem has been firmly suppressed.

There is, as yet, no conclusive proof either that the standard of behaviour has necessarily been raised or that no trouble would be caused in foreign lands. As Moynihan points out, England's followers will be genuinely on trial abroad for the first time in five months in West Germany.

The 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico were held on too distant a stage for the lack of trouble there to be significantly meaningful. The incident in Spain almost a year ago suggests that the disease, which England alone has exported, has not yet been adequately cured.

Instead the evidence indicates that England, in spite of being isolated, may have infected the continent. The prospect of a tie involving the notorious supporters of Chelsea and PSV Eindhoven, for example, should be frightening enough for anybody to think twice about unlocking the door to Europe.

15 per cent of shares in another. The League management committee's proposal is more stringent and involves a tightening of regulation 80.

Their proposal reads: "No person, by himself or with one or more associates, may at one time be directly or indirectly involved in any capacity whatsoever in the management or administration of more than one club."

The League have admitted that "scores" of people have interests in more than one club. The most notable of these would be Sir John Moores, whose family for many years has had a 42 per cent holding in Everton and 25 per cent in Liverpool.

In an effort to heighten the chairman's senses of responsibility, Stuart Webb, the Derby managing director, has vowed to sue the other 91 chairmen for damages if Maxwell fulfils his promise to pull the plug at the Baseball Ground in the event of an unfavourable decision by the League.

Sponsorship forces a League date rethink

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The problem of when Leicester, leaders of Rugby Union's Courage Clubs Championship, will play their League fixture with Gloucester, remains in the hands of the competition's organizing committee whose initial offering, January 30, met with a thumbs down from Bridgend and London Welsh.

It is an indication of how far-reaching commercial interests are that considerations of match sponsorship persuaded the two Welsh clubs, who would have had to give up scheduled fixtures with Gloucester and Leicester, to argue against the organizing committee's decision.

Today we publish the names of the 10 lucky winners of magnificent Whitbread lampers which were offered as prizes in *The Times* great Christmas Sports Jumbo Crossword published on Christmas Eve.

Prizewinners and answers, page 41

Board ban on betting

Bookmaking at boxing shows have caused the British Boxing Board of Control. Under new regulations the board now requires a promoter's assurance that betting facilities will not be available before being given permission for the event to be staged.

Previously the board was unable to prevent promoter Gary Davidson providing a bookmaker at a title show in November. Davidson understood the ban applied only to the ringside but was severely reprimanded when called before the board.

Money back

The Amateur Athletic Association will have returned the £125,000 it pledged for London Docklands indoor arena which was to include an athletics track and training facilities and has since been earmarked largely as a boxing and entertainments complex.

England captain brought to his knees



One that got away: Gating reflects on a missed slip catch, one of the few fielding errors made by England on a satisfactory opening day at Wellington

Vatnen delayed after car is stolen

From Jeremy Hart, Kaya, Mali

Ari Vatnen is unstoppable. Yesterday morning his £150,000 Peugeot car was stolen in Bamako and after a two-hour delay the rally continued without the current leader. But two and a half hours later, Vatnen was back in the race.

A European-looking man was seen driving Vatnen's car, without the headlights on, from the Park Fermé at 6.30 in the morning. The rally organizer, Rene Metge, saw the stolen racing machine going in the opposite direction as he headed to the morning's briefing in the capital.

Two men, on their way to work, came across the dumped car in the middle of a Bamako rubbish tip. The men reported seeing the car to Peugeot team officials and Vatnen was able



PARIS TO DAKAR

to start the rally two hours and a half after the rest of the field.

Jean Todt, the head of Peugeot-Talbot Sports, said after yesterday morning's incident that a £50,000 ransom demand had been asked and, along with the rally organizers, he has flown to meet a telephone caller claiming to be the thief.

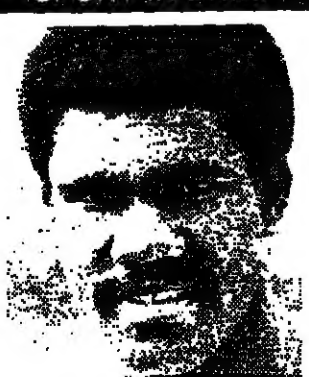
Todt said: "I would not have paid the ransom...anyway at 7 o'clock in the morning we wouldn't have found enough money. I would have needed to print my own banknotes and in that case I would not be working for Peugeot."

Vatnen, to everybody's surprise - including his own - scythed his way through 100 slower competitors most of the time in blinding dust. Vatnen finished yesterday's 510 kilometre stage in an incredible eighth position - just 37 minutes behind his Peugeot team-mate, Jukka Kankkunen, and keeping his lead in the rally which finishes on Friday.

As the rally continues to surprise even the most cynical onlookers, news came through that a 10-year-old Malian girl had been knocked down in Kita and killed by a competing vehicle.

RESULTS: 1. Kankkunen (Peugeot) 2.5.19; 2. Shmida (Mitsubishi) 2.5.20; 3. Smith (Porsche) 2.5.21; 4. Tumbay (Porsche) 2.5.22; 5. Armstrong (Peugeot) 2.5.23; 6. Basset (Toyota) 2.5.24; 7. Vatanen (Peugeot) 2.5.25; 8. Vatanen (Peugeot) 2.5.26; 9. Rovers (Toyota) 2.5.27; 10. Ponselle (Peugeot) 2.5.28.

SPORT IN BRIEF



Douglas: back in action

Toe trouble
Desmond Douglas, England's leading table tennis player, will have treatment on his injured big toe before the Leeds English open championships at Brighton tomorrow.

Injury verdict

Doctors fear that Tim Green, aged 27, the Pontypridd rugby player, may never walk again after breaking his back while making a tackle in the Llanelli and District League game against Tytores.

Bowlers following the agreed prescription

Wellington, New Zealand (Press Association) - A 22-year-old opening batsman, playing only his third first-class innings, took some of the shine off what was otherwise a highly satisfactory England performance on the first day of the opening game of the tour here.

Graham Burnett, a pharmacist, scored an unbeaten 87 to guide a weakened Wellington District XI to 188 for six at the close, after they had been struggling at 101 for five.

Burnett had to survive a real battering from an impressively lively England attack in

which Foster and Dilley stood out.

The England cricket manager, Mick Stewart, was understandably happy with his bowlers' first outing on what is a ten week tour. He said: "I was pleased with the line they bowled, which is something we have been working on." Stewart added that a sore ankle, which prevented Dilley bowling after tea, hindered England as Wellington fought back.

He added: "It is a soreness Graham always gets when he first starts bowling again, and he will be available to take the new ball tomorrow. I thought

he got his rhythm going very well, and after lunch Foster showed plenty of aggression and penetration when he bowled with what was a strong wind."

Dilley got England away to a good start by removing Edgar, the former Test opening batsman, in his fifth over. Foster took two wickets in successive overs after lunch - his first 11 overs costing only nine runs - and when Radford bowled Rohrs Wellington were 65 for four.

The Wellington captain, McSweeney, fell to Embury before another youngster, Ormiston, dug in with Burnett and helped add 71 for the sixth wicket. Ormiston, aged 24 and playing his third senior match, managed to provide some of the day's rare attacking shots before falling to a fine reflex catch by Gatting at slip, who dived to scoop up the catch after wicketkeeper French had done well to parry a top edge, forced by the persistent Capel.

Burnett saw out the day having struck a meagre four boundaries during 350 minutes in the middle, play having begun half an hour late.

WELLINGTON First Innings
S A Edgar c Embury b Dilley 10
G P Burnett not out 87
S R Larmann c French b Foster 11
T D Richards c Radford b Foster 11
A J Rogers b Radford 11
J B McSweeney c Foster b Embury 10
I Ormiston c Gatting b Capel 47
G H Capel not out 55
Extras (b 3, lb 2, nb 6) 11
Total (8 wickets) 188

Second Innings
S A Edgar 1-16, 2-26, 3-30, 4-38, 5-101, 6-172
BOWLING: Dilley 11-0-25-1; Foster 16-7-22-2; Capel 19-2-55-1; Radford 22-4-44-1; Embury 16-4-36-1; McSweeney 1-0-1-0.
ENGALAND: S C Broad, M H Fairbrother, D J Gower, M W Gatting, N H Fairbrother, D J Capel, J E Embury, J B French, N A Foster, N V Radford, G H Dilley, W Llewellyn, S Woodward and F Stoddart.

Gasser to hear verdict today

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

A decision is expected this morning, on the appeal against a two-year ban for drugs by Sandra Gasser, the Swiss athlete who was banned following a positive dope test at the World championships in Rome last summer, since when she has strenuously denied her innocence.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), who heard her appeal yesterday, claim that both samples of her urine were "very positive with steroids".

The decision from the IAAF appeals committee, in only the second hearing in its history, was originally expected in two weeks' time. But during a break in the hearing, which went on all day and into yesterday evening, John Holt, the IAAF general secretary, said that once the President, Dr Primo Nebiolo, was informed, the decision would be



Sandra Gasser entering the IAAF offices yesterday

made public as soon as possible. Miss Gasser, who was accompanied to London by three Swiss Federation officials, said: "The hearing is being objective, I can't say more." A Swiss civil court has given Miss Gasser clearance to compete both nationally and internationally, giving rise to an interesting legal situation.

but the IAAF claims its laws take precedence internationally as regards competition.

● OSLO: The Soviet Olympic medal hope, Nikolai Gulyayev was alleged yesterday to have sold anabolic steroids for Western currency to fellow speed skater Stein Kroshoy of Norway (Reuters reports). The Norwegian Sports Confederation, which is to investigate the allegation, said Kroshoy had admitted buying steroids from Gulyayev since 1985.

The investigation was launched after leaders of the Norwegian speed skating team in Davos reported that Gulyayev had delivered a package to another Norwegian skater in Innsbruck, Austria. This was to have been delivered to Kroshoy in Davos, the confederation statement said. The package contained 800 Russian-made anabolic steroids.

Bowls sponsor

The National Westminster Bank yesterday announced £120,000 in sponsorship for the British Isles bowls championships and home internationals for four years.

Bank role

Rome (AP) - Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL), Italy's largest commercial bank, announced yesterday that it will be the main distributor world-wide of tickets for the 1990 football World Cup.

Match off

St Helens have postponed Sunday's Stones Bitter first division Rugby League home match against Hull, because they have four players on international duty in France.

Team changes

Toulouse (AFP) - France are forced to replace the injured Guy Laforgue and Jean-Luc Rabot, who is suspended, for Saturday's rugby league international against Great Britain.

£1 million sponsorship boost for badminton

By Richard Eaton

The biggest badminton sponsorship ever, £1 million from the equipment company Yonex, will ensure a pre-eminent place within the sport for the foreseeable future for the All-England championships.

A five-year contract with the company was announced yesterday by the Badminton Association of England, which will make the Wembley event the biggest prize money tournament in the world and the first ever five-star tournament according to the new grading system of the International Badminton Federation.

This 350 per cent increase in prize money is perfectly timed. For the first time in its 88-year history the prestige of this unique and illustrious tournament has begun to be questioned. Recently the tendency of Far East players to miss the All-England every other year because they prefer to prepare for the Thomas and

Uber Cup finals, was becoming an increasing worry.

Now it is difficult to see any of the world's leading players wanting to miss the All-England. It will also provide a terrific boon to the game at a time of fears that Europe was in danger of becoming a backwater in an increasingly lucrative but Asian-dominated game.

● Gillian Gilks has written off her chances of competing at the Seoul Olympics. Mrs Gilks, England's best-known player, has learned that the mixed doubles is unlikely to be included in the 1988 Olympic programme, when badminton assumes demonstration status for the second time. The mixed doubles probably represented her only chance of appearing in Seoul with Martin Dew, her long-standing playing partner.

END COLUMN

Faraway venues a logical decision

By Keith Macklin

The decisions to take the Rugby League World Cup final to Los Angeles and next year's world club championship to Tokyo have caused some raised eyebrows, and some rumblings of discontent from traditionalists, but they have been welcomed by the visionaries.

Exotic locations like Tokyo and Los Angeles seem a far cry from the swivel mills of Batley and Dewsbury and the milewide of Featherstone and Leigh, but perhaps even the founding fathers of 1895 would accept that the 134-side code must expand to survive.

The logic of expansion disarms serious criticism. David Oxley, the League's secretary general, was charged at the last international board meeting with preparing a paper on the two great world finals. Australia, as certain finalists, were first choice to stage the World Cup, but their calendar was already crowded with bi-centennial celebrations and international matches.

Los Angeles, now a major target area for Rugby League development, was chosen, with encouragement for the scheme radiating from the 13,000 Californians who turned up to watch the recent State of Origin match between New South Wales and Queensland.

With Los Angeles scheduled for the World Cup final Tokyo became the logical choice for the World Cup championship. As Oxley said: "Rugby Union is a major growth sport in Japan. Both the Japanese sporting public and TV audiences enjoy rugby, and this is the right time for Rugby League to move in."

Experiment is fully supported

The Japan experiment was full support from Maurice Lindsay, chairman of Wigan, the top club who attracted 35,000 to Central Park for the inaugural world club championship against Manly Warringah. "It is a marvellously visionary move," said Lindsay, who reasoned that Japan will take to Rugby League far better than to Rugby Union. "We don't have lineouts where the Japs will always be outmanned and outwitted, but in Rugby League, where running and passing is much more important, skills, rather than size, come into their own."

Fuji, the large Japanese international television and communications company, have offered major backing for the game. Nationwide television coverage and big sums of sponsorship money are promised. Television is regarded as a major weapon in raising the game's world-wide prestige.

Australian coaches and administrators will be in California until May, organizing and encouraging the growth of Rugby League in schools, colleges and universities, with the World Cup final a natural climax. In 1989 an American students' squad will compete in the Student World Cup in Britain.

Grass root supporters may echo the comment of one St Helens supporter who said: "How many Saints fans could afford to go to Tokyo? Most people can just about manage a weekend at Wembley for the cup final."

To him, and to other doubting Thomases, Oxley says: "Supporters cannot complain of lack of national and international coverage for the game if they are not prepared to see it expand beyond our own backyard."